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27 June 1977

TRANSLATIONS ON VIETNAM
No. 1941

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

10,000 ASSAULT YOUTHS LEAVE HO CHI MINH CITY FOR SERVICE

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 18 Apr 77 pp 1,4

[Article by D.L.: "10,000 Assault Youths From 12 Urban Precincts Leave in a Group"]

[Text] SGP, 18 Apr--On the night of 17 April, 12 urban precincts held meetings to deliver recruits for induction into the Assault Youths. Large crowds of people from the precincts and representatives of the administration and from the precincts and representatives of the administration and from mass organizations and branches participated. Many cultural entertainment groups came to give support performances. In particular, the Central Play Group performed the plan "My Company Commander" at the Tao Dan Stage before more than 5,000 Assault Youths from the 1st, 3rd, and 4th Precincts.

On the morning of 18 April, 10,000 Assault Youths departed in a group. Among the Assault Youth forces that left this morning were many youths who yesterday were running successful businesses in the outdoor markets.

In the 3rd Precinct, 328 Assault Youths and large crowds of people expressed their determination to successfully achieve the Resolution of the second round congress of the Party Organization, specifically to send troops forward on the labor front to build new economic areas and the municipal food belt.

Reportedly, 7,000 of the Assault Youths dispatched this morning will supplement the new economic Assault Youth General Unit, and 3,000 will supplement the companies building water conservancy projects and engaging in production in rural areas of the city.

9019

CSO: 4909

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ARRIVE IN HONG KONG, JAPAN

Refugees Leave Philippines

Hong Kong AFP in English 0525 GMT 3 Jun 77 OW

[Text] Hong Kong, 3 Jun (AFP)--Thirty-eight Vietnamese refugees heading for the Philippines in a motorised junk arrived here today after running out of fuel.

There are in the group 16 men, 6 women and 16 children. They are now with the local police.

It is understood that the 38 left Danang for the Philippines 8 days ago but ran into fuel trouble. They changed course for Hong Kong after obtaining fuel from a passing fishing boat.

In Taniyama Harbor

Tokyo KYODO in English 1052 GMT 28 May 77 OW

[Excerpts] Kagoshima, 28 May KYODO--Thirty-seven Vietnamese refugees arrived in Taniyama Harbor, Kagoshima, Saturday morning aboard the Liberian freighter which had rescued them but were refused permission to land in Japan until it is decided how they will finally be accommodated.

The Vietnamese, including 14 men, 10 women and 13 children, were picked up by the Liberian freighter Los Andes Thursday morning floating on a lifeboat about 80 kilometers southwest of Ishigaki Island, in Okinawa Prefecture.

Kagoshima immigration officials said that the refugees, who had no other possessions aside from the clothes on their backs, were in good health. There are seven families in the group, including one 18-year-old girl who is 7 months pregnant.

The Justice Ministry Immigration Bureau said that it was holding talks with the Tokyo office of the United Nations high commissioner for refugees to determine temporary lodging of the refugees in Japan and the nations willing to eventually take them in.

Until arrangements are made the Vietnamese will be forced to remain on the ship, which is scheduled to leave for Aichi Prefecture next Tuesday.

The refugees said that they would like to join relatives in the United States, Switzerland, France, Hong Kong and Canada.

Landing at Kobe Port

Tokyo KYODO in English 1057 GMT 3 Jun 77 OW

[Text] Kobe, 3 Jun KYODO--Thirty Vietnamese refugees who were rescued by a Japanese freighter in the South China Sea late last month landed at Kobe Port Friday under special permission from the Justice Ministry.

The 16 male and 14 female Vietnamese, 13 of them children, were then admitted to the Rokko Kaikan, a place of shelter here affiliated with a Catholic organization.

The latest arrivals are the third group of Vietnamese refugees allowed to land here since the turn of this year. They brought to 93 the total number of refugees landing at Kobe.

The 30 Vietnamese slipped out of a small southeastern Vietnamese port aboard an 8-ton boat on 17 May. They were picked up by the Japanese freighter Alps Maru some 500 kilometers northeast of Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) 6 days later.

The Vietnamese arrived in Kobe Wednesday after the Taiwanese Government refused to accept them at Keelung Port on 26 May.

Most of the Vietnamese, who include former soldiers, factory hands, and nurses, have expressed the desire to emigrate to Australia, the United States or Canada.

CSO: 4920

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

THEFT OF ALUMINUM FROM STATE EXPOSED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 26 Apr 77 p 3

[Readers' Opinions column: "Safeguarding State Property"]

[Text] Recently, a number of trucks which make runs between Hue and Hanoi, in association with merchants, transported aluminum plates and aluminum sheets to sell in Nam Dinh Municipality and Phu Ly City. Most of this aluminum comes under material supplies managed by the state and was stolen by bad people who sold it to the merchants, causing a great loss in state property.

We recommend that the agencies and units which send out trucks teach the drivers not to lend a hand to bad people. The agencies and units which deal with aluminum goods should adopt measures to closely manage these types of goods. The public security, tax, militia and self-defense checkpoints should organize tight controls, recover material supplies and commodities for the state and take stern measures in dealing with those who encroach upon socialist property.

Song Dai
(Hue City, Binh Tri Thien)

8934
CSO: 4909

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

END TO BUREAUCRACY, OFFICIALDOM URGED

Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 26 May 77 BK

[NHAN DAN 27 May editorial: "Step Up the Campaign Against Bureaucracy and Officialdom"]

[Text] The Premier's Directive No 159/TTG has been implemented for over a year now. The campaign against the ills of bureaucracy, red tape and officialdom to reduce trouble for the people--which has been conducted first of all at the grassroots level and in the various sectors having daily contact with the people--has brought about some concrete results. The security, trade, banking and public health sectors have made improvements concerning their work procedures and methods, which are welcomed by the public. In many grassroots units the phenomena of officialdom and arrogance and complicated paper-work procedures have been reduced. A number of leaders of administrative organs, including those who are chairmen of provincial or municipal people's committees, have maintained direct and regular contact with the people and have promptly settled all the legitimate demands raised by them.

These are but limited initial results. The campaign against bureaucracy and officialdom to reduce trouble for the people has developed unevenly and unsteadily. Thanh Hoa, Vinh Phu, Ha Son Binh, Hanoi, the Ministry of War Invalids and Social Welfare and the People's Supreme Procuratorate have carefully studied and broadly propagated Directive No 159/TTG, and have worked out realistic plans to steadily conduct the campaign against bureaucracy and officialdom. However, some sectors and localities have not strictly carried out the Premier's Directive No 159/TTG. They have only superficially studied this directive and failed to devise concrete plans for carrying it out. Some localities have tried to combat bureaucracy and officialdom and have corrected some wrongdoings, but relapses have occurred; and this has weakened the masses' confidence. These shortcomings are due to the fact that the local party committee echelons have not yet truly paid attention to leading the campaign, that leaders of the various sectors and administrative echelons have not upheld a sense of responsibility and have failed to provide concentrated, continuous and concrete guidance; that close coordination has not

been effected among the various party organizations, administrative organs and mass organizations, among the various sectors and echelons and between the higher and lower echelons; and that appropriate attention has not been given to supervisory and inspection work.

The ills of bureaucracy and officialdom constitute a danger to the ruling party, for they produce harmful consequences. They render us unable to do our work and, isolated from the people, slow down the operation of the state machinery and gradually destroy the revolutionary nature of cadres and party members. Therefore, the resolution of our party's Fourth Congress points out: We must make all activities of state organs strictly consistent with the set statutes, truly respect the people's right to collective ownership and guarantee their interests, and at the same time must demand that all citizens fulfill their obligations and comply with the law. Cadres and state personnel must uphold the spirit of unconditional service to the people and must struggle against corruption, waste, arrogance, officialdom and irresponsibility. It is necessary to prevent a number of cadres and state personnel from becoming a class of people with special rights and interests.

The struggle against bureaucracy and officialdom is an important aspect of the undertaking to strengthen the socialist legal system and build the collective ownership system. Resolutions No 159/TTC and 472/TTC must be strictly implemented in all sectors and echelons of the state machinery.

To satisfactorily conduct the campaign against bureaucracy and officialdom, all sectors and echelons must fully assess the situation and the results already achieved, and must clearly recognize both strong points and shortcomings and the causes of both success and failure so as to work out plans to further step up the campaign. Bureaucracy stems from many causes. To overcome it we must stage a multisided, comprehensive and profound struggle and must have time. In drafting plans for the near future, all sectors and echelons should review the various problems, with attention given to those causing much trouble to the people so that efforts will be concentrated on overcoming them on a feasible scale and to a feasible degree. It is important that we be resolved to carry out correctional work and resolutely do away with cumbersome organizations and systems while promptly establishing suitable new organizations and systems. Along with this it is necessary to satisfactorily set up an information network to firmly grasp and promptly analyze the situation, and to adopt a system which enables cadres to closely follow the actual development of the campaign at the lower echelons and in grassroots units.

With regard to officialdom--the very product of the viewpoint whose advocates hold the people in contempt and want everything easy for them but hard for others--we sternly condemn it and are determined to combat and eliminate it. As far as their behavior and attitude are concerned, cadres and personnel of state organs must prove themselves to be servants of the people. Attentive leadership of the party committee echelons and the sense of responsibility of leaders of the various sectors and echelons constitute a factor guaranteeing the satisfactory conduct of the campaign against bureaucracy and officialdom. On the other hand, to satisfactorily conduct the campaign it is required

that a mass movement be launched in state organs as well as in society to develop the right to collective ownership, supervise services to the people and correct all practices of bureaucracy, red tape and officialdom thereof.

Supervisory and control work is important. Along with tightening the control exerted by the various party committee echelons and leaders of the various sectors and echelons, it is necessary to step up inspection activities of the State Inspection Commission and of both the specialized and people's inspection networks.

Let all of us develop the right to collective ownership and step up the struggle against bureaucracy and officialdom in order to build a new, good regime for ourselves!

CSO: 4909

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

WHEAT BEING SOLD ON BLACK MARKET

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 19 Apr 77 p 2

[Article by V.K.: "Tale of the Market Place"]

[Text] SGP--Yesterday, having nothing else to do, I strolled through Truong Tan Buu Market to see how business was. I had just stopped to watch a youth pursue an old lady, basket in hand, begging to bargain, when I suddenly saw two or three children pick up their baskets and converge on some push carts that a moment ago had been parked there, sweeping and scooping continuously. Curious, I strolled after them until I could see that what they had was wheat...

The bags of wheat were then carried into house number 5, Xom Voi Street, to be dumped into piles of wheat there. Seeing me trying to find out about the boys following the push carts, one youth thought he had a customer and asked me, "How many quintals do you want to buy?" Before I could answer he added, "I can 'find' you however much you want, at only 38 Ngan (76 Dong) a quintal!" I felt very strange because wheat is a State controlled commodity, and needless to say is not for sale to people, but how did these people get it and get it in amounts... "As much as you want?" How did they get so skillful at "finding?"

In my worried and tormented condition, I hope that the responsible agencies and management sectors will investigate and research to see from what back alley those grains of wheat "leaked."

9019

CSO: 4909

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

KEROSENE DISTRIBUTED TO RURAL DISTRICTS OF HO CHI MINH CITY

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 18 Apr 77 pp 1, 4

[Article by C.P.: "Continuing To Take Kerosene to Rural Districts and New Economic Areas; Each Household Bought Nine Liters for Three Months Use"]

[Text] SGP--In the first quarter of 1977, people in the five districts of Cu Chi, Hoc Mon, Thu Duc, Nha Be and Binh Chanh were allowed to purchase kerosene in local areas. Using container trucks and barrels, the Fuel Corporation transported the fuel to villages in each district to guarantee that the fuel reached the consumers. Each household could make one purchase of nine liters for 3 months.

At the same time as delivering the fuel to the rural districts, responding to the needs of the local authorities that have people going to new economic areas, the Corporation's fuel distribution teams delivered fuel for distribution to nearly 2,000 households in the three villages of Ta Chot, Tha La 1 and Dong Pan, Tan Bien District (Tay Ninh) and to more than 600 households in Tan Uyen District (Song Be). The Corporation is continuing to deliver fuel for sale to the people.

9019

CSO: 4909

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

BRIEFS

AGRICULTURAL TAX--By 20 May, peasants in Kien Giang Province had turned over 93,000 tons of paddy as agricultural tax payment and surplus paddy sales to the state. An Bien District has taken the lead in the emulation movement to pay agricultural taxes and sell surplus paddy to the state with 21,664 tons. [Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0245 GMT 30 May 77 BK]

SUPPLY OF RICE SEEDS--Thanh Hoa Province has prepared 11,000 tons of rice seeds of different varieties. Of these, 9,000 tons were prepared by agricultural cooperatives and 2,000 tons by the Provincial Seeds Supply Corporation. Thanh Hoa now needs 4,000 tons more to sow the entire 10th-month rice area totaling 150,000 hectares. This is 8,000 hectares more than the plan. The Provincial Agricultural Service has sent cadres to help cooperatives in redistributing rice seeds by transporting rice seeds from areas where there is a surplus to areas where there is a shortage. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 1 Jun 77 BK]

PADDY SALE TO STATE--Since early this year, the peasants in Dong Thap Province have sold 55,000 tons of paddy to the state, representing 43 percent of the year's quota. Thanks to its effective purchase and collection network, during April and May the province succeeded in collecting and purchasing almost as much paddy as it collected and purchased in the first quarter of 1977. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 1 Jun 77 BK]

WATER CONSERVANCY CONFERENCE--The Ministry of Water Conservancy held a conference in Ho Chi Minh City from 25 to 28 May 1977, to disseminate a draft of its Five-Year Water Conservancy Plan, under which efforts must be made to get sufficient water for the southern provinces to increase their two-crop-a-year rice area from the existing 200,000 hectares to 1.1 million hectares and to reclaim an additional 400,000 hectares of land by 1980. As an immediate task, the water conservancy sector must insure sufficient water for 490,000 hectares of winter-spring rice and 400,000 hectares of summer-fall rice in the Mekong Delta. [Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0245 GMT 30 May 77 BK]

CSO: 4909

AGRICULTURE

PROGRESS REPORTED IN ANTIFLOOD CONTROL

Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0900 GMT 28 May 77 BK

[Text] In recent days, along with stepping up caring for and preparing to harvest 5th-month spring rice, various localities have tried to urgently complete construction of antiflood dams before the arrival of the rainy season. In the northern provinces some 400,000 people work at various dam-building worksites every day, striving to speedily fulfill the task of repairing or building dams, protective dikes and sluices in accordance with the actual situation and the directive of the premier of the government.

To date Hai Hung Province and three districts of Ha Nam Ninh Province--Vu Ban, Binh Luc and Nam Ninh--have completely fulfilled their dam-building plans for the whole year. Hai Hung Province fulfilled the dam-building plan assigned by the state and completed construction of seven protective dikes before 14 May. Nearly 20,000 militiamen and water-conservancy workers were mobilized daily by the province to build dams and protective dikes. Learning from the experience of the Song Ly large-scale manual labor worksite in Thanh Hoa, Kim Dong District regulated the distribution of manpower throughout the district and rationally organized the labor force engaged in digging and building, thereby exceeding the labor productivity set norm by 60 percent and fulfilling its dam-building plan 18 days ahead of schedule. At present, Hai Hung is still using more than 20,000 laborers daily to finish remaining work on the various dams such as building protective dikes and breakwaters.

Ha Nam Ninh Province has sent more than 20,000 people to various worksites to build protective dikes and dredge sluices. All the districts, cities and towns have concentrated efforts on achieving self-sufficiency in grain, food and work tools, striving to completely fulfill their plans for building dams and protective dikes and dredging sluices before 30 June. Owing to their concentrated labor force and effective leadership, Nam Ninh, Hai Hau, Nghia Hung, Vu Ban and Binh Loc districts fulfilled the Day River dam-building plan as of 25 April. The districts massed a sizable labor force to repair and elevate the dams on the Red River, the Dao River and the Dinh Co River and those in the coastal areas.

In Ha Son Binh Province various districts and cities have basically fulfilled their first-phase dam-building plans on the Da River, Red River and Day River dams, achieving 99.5 percent of the planned norms. Along with its dam-building activities the province has fulfilled the plan for building the three protective dikes of Quang Lam, Pho De and Lien Tri.

In recent days several army units stationed in various localities and entrusted with dam-building tasks have quickly moved into the designated areas and promptly begun their work. Assigned to build dams in Gia Vien District, Ha Nam Ninh Province, units of the Quyet Thang Army Corps, by carrying out several innovations to increase labor productivity, were able to complete their work 15 days ahead of schedule after having moved nearly 40,000 cubic meters of earth in their digging and building activities.

Along with building dams to prevent and control storms and floods, the localities throughout the country have actively dredged canals and ditches and strengthened various drainage and irrigational projects to support production activities. Vinh Phu Province has devoted tens of thousands of man-days to dredging more than 155,000 cubic meters of earth, clearing the (Chay Ngoi) and (Luong Chieu) rivers and repairing sluices, thus taking the initiative in preventing and controlling waterlogging to save rice. The provincial water-conservancy service urgently repaired more than 100 power pumps to support anti-waterlogging activities and assigned people to keep a 24-hour watch over sluices in order to remove any debris hindering the water flow in case of heavy rain.

In Cam Loc District, Nghe Tinh Province, more than 10,000 people have participated daily in the "concerted uprising" campaign to build water-conservancy projects. Over the past 3 months the entire district has moved 450,000 cubic meters of earth in its digging and building work, equaling the total amount of earth moved in the previous 3 years, and quickly and efficiently completed and put into operation several projects to support production.

In Binh Tri Thien nearly 200,000 youth union members are enthusiastically laboring at various local water-conservancy worksites. In addition to the various campaigns of collective work, youths have contributed 65,000 communist labor man-days, moving 74,000 cubic meters of earth in their digging and building activities.

The southern provinces and cities from Quang Nam-Danang southward have used nearly 35 million man-days to move 40 million cubic meters of earth in their digging and building work, and have promptly restored, repaired or built several medium and small-scale water-conservancy projects to support production. Participating in the 1976-1977 dry season water-conservancy campaign, from mid-December to date, Ho Chi Minh City alone has used 25 million man-days to move 4 million cubic meters of earth in its digging and building activities.

CSO: 4909

AGRICULTURE

REAPING 5TH-MONTH RICE WHILE PLANTING 10TH-MONTH CROP URGED

Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 25 May 77 BK

[NHAN DAN 26 May editorial: "Satisfactorily Organize Labor To Reap the 5th-Month Spring Crop and Plant the 10th-Month Crop"]

[Text] This year the northern provinces will reap the 5th-month spring rice much later than in past years. The 5th-month-spring rice harvest will come at the time when the 10th-month rice is being planted; and this will place a very heavy strain on the agricultural work force.

To satisfactorily carry out both tasks mentioned above, the various agricultural cooperatives must adopt plans and measures to satisfactorily organize and employ labor, mobilize all their labor potentials and increase labor productivity. It is necessary to insure a balance between labor and the workload in each period of time, each work operation and each production season. The basic production teams--which are responsible chiefly for fulfilling the cooperative's production plan--must carry out their functions satisfactorily without waiting for or relying on assistance. Nevertheless, when there is a labor shortage, labor must be deployed not only in each production team but on an all-cooperative scale, with close coordination and cooperation of labor effected among the various production units and laborers in a cooperative and among the various cooperatives in order to successfully carry out tasks throughout the district.

The labor plan must set forth measures to mobilize all labor potentials of the cooperative and encourage cooperative members to work enthusiastically, put in more time and strive to increase labor productivity. We must closely carry out and broadly apply the piece-work system. Basic production teams and specialized teams, based on their workload, are responsible for organizing and assigning work to hastily organized labor groups. When assigning piece work we must clearly specify the quantity and quality of work, the required time for its completion and the amount of work credit to be given; it is also necessary to check the results after the work has been done.

Each laborer can be given work assignments which neither require collective labor nor obstruct the collective production process. The basis of the piece-work system consists of the various production processes, labor norms and economic-technical norms. If this basis is ignored or neglected, a situation will arise in which production is performed irresponsibly, distribution is not carried out justly and rationally and the cultivation schedule is upset.

Along with strengthening labor management we must prepare enough good-quality tools, care for and protect workers' health, and consolidate and develop nursery, kindergarten, food supply, lunch-catering and other activities to help cooperative members reduce their preoccupation with family affairs and devote more time to production.

Labor management must be closely linked with the emulation movement for productive labor and the development of cooperative members' sense of collective ownership for the immediate purpose of concentrating efforts on rapidly reaping the 5th-month spring crop and planting the 10th-month crop on the entire area in accordance with the cultivation schedule.

CSO: 4909

AGRICULTURE

KIEN GIANG PROVINCE PREPARES FOR SUMMER-AUTUMN RICE CROP

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 26 Apr 77 p 2

[Article: "Kien Giang Prepares Sufficient Seeds for More than 85,000 Hectares of Summer-Autumn Rice"]

[Text] VNA--In addition to seeds prepared by the farmers, Kien Giang Province has purchased 9,000 metric tons of the Nong Nghiep 73-2, Nong Nghiep 30 and nong nghiep 28 rice strains and has distributed nearly 7,000 metric tons. To date, throughout the province, there are sufficient good seeds to sow and transplant 85,000 hectares of summer-autumn rice.

Kien Giang Province has urgently supplied additional fertilizers, insecticides and herbicides to the farmers, ensuring that each hectare of summer-autumn rice has 100 kilograms of chemical fertilizers and 20 to 30 kilograms of insecticides and herbicides. The province has improved the method of distributing seeds, fertilizers and insecticides to ensure that they are distributed for the correct objectives.

8934

CSO: 4909

AGRICULTURE

NORTHERN PROVINCES INCREASE WEEDING, WATER CONSERVANCY WORK

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 26 Apr 77 p 1

[Article: "As of 20 April, the North Carried Out One Weeding on 88 Percent, and Two Weedings on 48 Percent of the Fifth Month-Spring Rice Area. Seventeen Thousand Hectares Affected by Insects Were Saved and are Green and Strong Again. Two Hundred Twenty-Four Thousand People Work Daily on Farmland Water Conservancy Improvements"]

[Text] According to the General Department of Statistics, as of 20 April the North had performed one weeding on 726,000 hectares of fifth month-spring rice, 88 percent of the sown and transplanted area. Of this, the area where two weedings were carried out was 397,000 hectares, 48 percent of the sown and transplanted area, equaling 54.6 percent of the area where one weeding was carried out.

Hanoi Municipality and the provinces of Hai Hung, Thai Binh and Ha Nam Ninh performed one weeding on 90.2 to 95 percent of the area. Almost all the districts of Binh Tri Thien and the [following] districts completed one weeding: Nam Ninh, Nghia Hung, Hai Hau and Xuan Thuy, Ha Nam Ninh; Ha Hoa, Vinh Phu; Gia Loc, Hai Hung; Tho Xuan, Thanh Hoa; Mai Chau, Dan Phuong and Thanh Oai, Ha Son Binh.

The various provinces are promoting two weedings and some places have switched to carrying out three weedings on some rice areas. Three weedings were carried out in Ha Nam Ninh on 18,600 hectares, in Thai Binh on 7,300 hectares and in Thanh Hoa on 1,700 hectares. In addition to weeding and fertilizing, the various localities sprayed insecticides on and saved 17,000 hectares of rice being destroyed by insects, making the crop green and strong again.

An estimated 22 percent of the rice area in Binh Tri Thien Province is growing and developing quite well.

Also as of 20 April, the five provinces of Vinh Phu, Ha Boc, Hai Phong, Ha Son Binh and Thanh Hoa sowed an estimated 1,900 metric tons of rice seeds and transplanted 3,000 hectares of summer rice, of which Ha Boc and Thanh Hoa transplanted 2,500 hectares.

VNA--According to the Water Conservancy Ministry, during the past week the North mobilized 224,000 people daily to work on farmland water conservancy improvements. Among those, 104,000 repaired and dredged canals and ditches to use the water to fight drought and nourish the fifth month-spring rice, conserving water to serve a number of summer rice transplanting areas.

The provinces of Bac Thai, Quang Ninh, Cao Lang and Hoang Lien Son each mobilized tens of thousands of people to work on farmland water conservancy improvements at projects which irrigate large fields. Nghe Tinh Province mobilized 24,000 people to endeavor to complete the remaining tasks of the three-year plan, transferring, managing and operating those projects which have been improved.

The provinces of Ha Nam Ninh, Ha Boc, Hai Hung, Thai Binh, Vinh Phu, Bac Thai...effectively organized "big handicraft work sites;" effectively managed the labor, capital, material supplies, the construction pace and technical supervision and endeavored to quickly and effectively carry out waterlogging drainage projects. Thanh Hoa Province, home of the "big handicraft work site" of Song Ly, is effectively organizing the Thung Bang and Lach Bang water conservancy work sites and preparing to carry out the Muc River project...At the Lach Bang work site (a big project whose principal tasks have been assigned to the district), cadres and combatants of the 14th Regiment, Thanh Hoa local forces, together with cadres of the water conservancy sector and local youths, laid wagon tracks to move dirt, attained high labor productivity, quickly cleared flat surfaces, dug culvert foundations, built dikes and regulated overflow, saving the state tens of thousands of dong. At the Song Ly work site, cadres and workers of the Thanh Hoa Water Conservancy Building Corporation together with youths and the militia accelerated the construction pace, completing the digging of a pit for the foundations of the Ngoc Giap culvert before the deadline. The provinces of Thai Binh, Hai Hung and Ha Boc are also urgently completing the An Tho and Tra Linh 2 drainage ditches and the Boa Son project. Hai Hung Province is starting work on the construction of 20 pumping stations to support waterlogging drainage, timely serving the tenth-month [rice] crop.

The corporations which manage farmland water conservancy work in the provinces of Thanh Hoa, Nghe Tinh, Ha Son Binh and Ha Boc are making an investigation to fully know about the summer rice transplanting area, ensuring the operation of the various systems to supply water to timely serve the summer rice crop.

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CSO: 4909

AGRICULTURE

FUNCTION OF WORK EXCHANGE, PRODUCTION SOLIDARITY TEAMS IN SOUTH OUTLINED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 26 Apr 77 p 2

[Column: "Understanding Policies and Matters Concerning Management"]

[Text] Question: Please let us know about the work exchange teams and production solidarity teams which the radio and newspapers frequently mention regarding farmers in the southern provinces.

Answer: The farmers of southern provinces have organized various forms of mutual help in promoting agricultural and forestry production. These are called production solidarity teams, work exchange teams, etc. Although the names differ, these organizations were all voluntarily established by the farmers under the leadership of the basic party organization and received guidance from the farmers association and the village people's committee in order for the farmers to have the conditions to help one another in production and livelihood and motivate one another to satisfactorily fulfill their obligations to the state. These are the basic forms on the road to collective life. The difference between a production solidarity team and a work exchange team is that, in a work exchange team, the principal matter is the farmers helping one another by exchanging work with one another, possibly exchanging one task at a time or many tasks. A production solidarity team also exchanges work with one another but they may also employ one another, when necessary, by agreement among the various households in the team, or else they may organize to jointly purchase material supplies when the state distributes them. The important points to ensure that these organization forms are well built and operate efficiently are: they must have specific rules; the residences of the households must be relatively near to one another to facilitate production and activities; and democratic discussions must be held when deciding on affairs of the team.

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Agricultural Cooperatives)

8934

CSO: 4909

AGRICULTURE

HANOI REVIEWS LIVESTOCK BREEDING PROCESS FOR MAY

Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 4 Jun 77 BK

[Text] Dear friends, despite many difficulties, many localities have recently tried to maintain and develop livestock breeding. According to figures released by the General Statistics Department, as of 1 April 1977, while the total number of buffaloes throughout the country dropped by 1 percent as compared with 1 October 1976, the number of oxen increased by 1.5 percent. The number of hogs decreased by 7.7 percent in a national count but increased by 8 percent in the southern provinces. In the northern provinces, the number of hogs dropped by 13.7 percent as compared with 1 October 1976 and 6 percent as compared with the same period of last year. [as received]

The number of hogs bred by some localities--most of them mountainous provinces--have shown fair increases over the same period of last year. For example, the number of hogs in Lai Chau Province has increased by 7.6 percent, that of Son La Province by 6.2 percent, that of Ha Tuyen by 2.2 percent and that of Cao Lang by .1 percent. Meanwhile, the biggest drops in the numbers of hogs have been reported in such localities as Quang Ninh, Haiphong, Hanoi and Thai Binh.

In May, many localities applied active measures to resolve the feed problem and prevent and control epizootics in order to maintain and increase the number of hogs. Ha Nam Ninh Province has guided the cooperatives in planting more vegetables and subsidiary crops and making full use of agricultural byproducts for livestock breeding. The provincial agricultural commission, working in coordination with the women's union, has guided family livestock breeding cells in breeding more hogs in time for the 5th-month and spring crop harvest; and 2,000 livestock breeding cells have each raised from 40 to 60 more hogs.

In Hai Hung, the agricultural service has sent more technical cadres, materials and capital to Gia Loc and Khoai Chau districts, which have been chosen by the province as major livestock breeding districts; and 10 cooperatives from each district have been selected to become livestock breeding models. The leading comrades of various villages and selected cooperatives

have been sent by the agricultural service on an observation tour to study the experience of various intensive cultivation and hog breeding models in Dong Hung District, Thai Binh. After the observation tour, each selected cooperative has revised its livestock breeding plan for 1977 and 1978, which is aimed at improving management over livestock breeding, strengthening its material and technical bases and striving to further advance livestock breeding.

In Ha Son Binh Province, the Agricultural Commission of Thach That District has worked out a plan to guide the local cooperatives in organizing teams specializing in feed production and in reserving 5 percent of the cultivated land to produce more feed of better quality for the collective hog herds.

Thanks to the success in resolving the feed problem, by 1 April 1977 the number of hogs in Guynh Phu District, Thai Binh Province, increased by 13 percent as compared with the same period of last year, with the collective hog herd scoring an increase of 2,000 head over 1 October 1976.

Meanwhile, the Agricultural Service of Binh Tri Thien Province has stepped up its activities to guide, consolidate and strengthen Phuc Ly Cooperative, Bo Trach District, in an effort to turn it into a technical station for research and experimentation and for the propagation of livestock breeding science and technology to other cooperatives.

Vinh Phu, Thanh Hoa, Hanoi, Haiphong and Quang Ninh are now striving to maintain and increase their hog herds both before and since the 5th-month and spring rice harvest. The Agricultural Service of Thanh Hoa Province is guiding the construction of a mechanical food processing network covering various districts.

To promote the plan to harvest the 5th-month crop and grow the 10th-month crop, efforts are being exerted in various localities to care for water buffaloes and oxen and to fatten them. In many districts of Nghe Tinh Province, attention has been paid to maintaining natural grasslands and to cutting grass and preserving it for further use as fodder for water buffaloes and oxen. Thanh Hoa and many mountainous provinces are urging cooperatives to intensify the breeding of water buffaloes and oxen.

The various provinces have also paid attention to guiding the breeding of poultry. Throughout the country there are now 63 centers where chickens are bred according to industrial methods. Almost all of these breeding centers have correctly implemented production regulations and technical standards and have thus fulfilled or overfulfilled the economic and technical norms set by the poultry breeding sector.

Owing to the aid of the Ha Nam Ninh Agricultural Service, the Minh Phong Cooperative in Gia Khanh District has produced the first batch of more than 7,000 chickens bred according to industrial methods. After 56 days of growth, these chickens weigh 1.24 kg each on the average.

Proper care has been taken of ducks in many provinces. As of early May, Thanh Hoa obtained 2.1 million eggs and distributed 51,000 ducklings to duck-breeding cooperatives. In Phu Khanh Province, the current number of ducks is double that in the corresponding period of last year.

In the sea fishing field, Phu Khanh, Kien Giang, Thuan Hai, Quang Nam-Danang and Nghia Binh provinces have mobilized many means and boats which can go to sea for a couple of days in order to catch fish to sell to the state beyond the planned norms. In 40 days at the beginning of the "Nam" fish catching period, Nghia Binh Province caught 7,500 tons of fish. Though underfulfilling the planned norms, Thuan Hai Province managed to sell to the state 72.6 per-cent of the catch.

Like the grain production task, the animal husbandry task requires the various localities and peasantry to exert greater efforts. Following are the immediate tasks which must be properly carried out according to the Livestock General Department:

Each province and district must try to observe the norms indicated in the 1977 animal husbandry plan: to achieve a balance between the present number of domestic animals and the number of those put on sale and to accurately determine the additional number of domestic animals to be bred in the forthcoming months.

The agricultural sector must cooperate with the food sector to properly manage and regulate the number of little breeding hogs between areas where they are in excess and areas where their number is insufficient, so that cooperatives and peasant households may have enough breeding hogs to raise before and after the 5th month-spring rice crop harvest. While harvesting this crop, it is necessary to provide close guidance to insure balance between the quantity of domestic animal fodder and that of grain for human consumption. In addition to grain plans, it is necessary to draw up adequate plans concerning fodder for collective livestock breeding farms.

Efforts must be exerted to take care of water buffaloes and oxen, to fatten them, to intensively grow grass, to rearrange pastures and to reclassify water buffaloes and oxen, in order to formulate rational methods to raise them and use them during the rush period in the cultivation of the 10th-month rice crop. It is necessary to organize duck egg hatching and provide a sufficient number of breeding ducks to state farms and cooperatives to enable them to develop duck raising according to season and to delimit duck breeding areas after rice harvesting has been completed in each field.

Veterinarian cadres and medicines must be mobilized to immediately eliminate epizootic hotbeds to protect domestic animals from summer diseases. Each province and district must review the animal husbandry situation in the first 6 months of this year and take measures to develop livestock raising in the last 6 months of the year in order to fulfill and overfulfill the 1977 animal husbandry plan.

AGRICULTURE

BRIEFS

NORTHERN RICE PLANTING--According to the General Statistics Department and the Agriculture Ministry, 5th-month spring rice plants in the northern provinces are heading unevenly and slowly due to drought. The area where rice is heading is only half of that in the same period last year. The slow development of rice plants may affect the cultivation of the 10th-month rice crop. Hot sunshine and high temperatures have caused the drought-stricken rice area covering 13.4 percent of the total rice area to expand. Localities have motivated tens of thousands of people to go to the fields to dig irrigation ditches, dredge canals and utilize water baskets or pumps to water ricefields so that rice plants can grow ears quickly. Efforts to control insects harmful to rice plants are also being made in various northern provinces. As for summer rice, northern provinces have basically completed the transplanting, with 21,389 hectares sown as of 15 May. Vinh Phu, Ha Bac, Ha Son Binh and Thanh Hoa are provinces having the largest summer rice areas in the north. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0530 GMT 21 May 77 BK]

SOUTHERN RICE PLANTING--So far, southern provinces have sown summer-fall rice by using both transplanting and direct-sowing methods on 100,000 hectares or approximately 20 percent of the planned acreage. Taking advantage of early season rains, localities have stepped up rice planting. However, the pace of planting rice remains slow as a result of prolonged drought and the infiltration of salty water into ricefields, forcing peasants to wash salinity away from the soil before they can start sowing rice. [Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 22 May 77 BK]

QUYET THANG CORPS CULTIVATION--Units of the Quyet Thang Corps are actively fertilizing the 5th-month spring rice crop. Soldiers of the Tien Phong Division are consolidating the network of ditches and pumping stations to provide sufficient water for the ricefields at Trung Hoa. The Dong Bang Division and the 241st Antiaircraft Brigade have achieved high labor productivity in weeding ricefields. The 299th Engineer Brigade, the 203d Armored Brigade and the 140th Signal Regiment have made full use of transportation means to carry fertilizer to ricefields. The Tat Thang Artillery Brigade

and the Rang Dong Economic Unit of the corps' Rear Service Department have completed the first fertilizing phase. Up to now the entire Quyet Thang Corps has fertilized and weeded more than 243 hectares of the 5th-month spring rice crop. [Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 4 May 77 p 1 BK]

HAMPERING DROUGHT--Due to failure to overcome difficulties arising from drought, Long An, Hau Giang, Ben Tre, Cuu Long and Dong Thap provinces have to date been able to sow summer-fall rice on only 10 to 20 percent of the planned acreage. For instance, Ben Tre has sown approximately 10,000 hectares or one-fifth of the planned acreage, and Hau Giang has sown about 4,000 out of the planned 130,000 hectares. [Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 22 May 77 BK]

AN GIANG AGRICULTURAL TAX--Peasants in An Giang Province paid nearly 4,770 tons of paddy as agricultural tax to the state in April along with the sale of another 25,590 tons, bringing the total volume of paddy sold to the state since early this year to over 87,000 tons and fulfilling some 48.6 percent of the annual grain obligation norms. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 12 May 77]

AN GIANG RICE--An Giang Province is determined to transplant 60,000 hectares of the summer-fall rice this year. The provincial agricultural service has sent cadres to villages and hamlets to help local peasants fulfill the transplanting plan early in May. [Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0245 GMT 5 May 77 BK] In the first 20 days of May, peasants in An Giang Province successfully sowed summer-fall rice on 26,100 hectares, thus bringing the total rice area sown so far to 34,000 hectares or more than half of the planned acreage. All the area reserved for sowing summer-fall rice has been plowed. [Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2345 GMT 24 May 77 BK]

BEN TRE RICE CULTIVATION--Ben Tre Province is speeding up earthwork in districts where fresh water is available in an effort to complete transplanting 50,000 hectares of the summer-fall rice on schedule. [Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0245 GMT 12 May 77 BK]

BINH TRI THIEN SECONDARY CROPS--Binh Tri Thien Province has thus far planted secondary crops including manioc, corn and sweet potatoes on 60,000 hectares, exceeding the planned area by 17.6 percent. Districts in the southern part of the province continue the planting of sweet potatoes on the high-lying areas where 3d-month rice has just been harvested. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0900 GMT 23 May 77 BK]

CUU LONG RICE--Since late April various districts in the freshwater area of Cuu Long Province have sown 14,800 additional hectares of above-crop rice, thus bringing the above-crop rice area of the year 1977 to 55,176 hectares, or nearly 50 percent of the criteria prescribed by higher echelons. Tra On is the district sowing the largest area of summer-fall rice in the province--3,839 hectares. [Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2345 GMT 22 May 77 BK]

DAC LAC WHEAT--This year Dac Lac Province plans to sow wheat on 15,000 hectares, a fourfold increase over last year. The province has launched an emulation drive under which each person is urged to sow 300 wheat plants: each village, 40-100 hectares of wheat; and each district, 500-2,000 hectares. The province has thus far plowed 10,500 hectares and expects to finish planting wheat on the entire planned acreage. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 16 May 77 BK]

DONG NAI CULTIVATION--In an effort to solve the grain problem, Dong Nai Province in 1977-1978 will reclaim and put into production 60,000 hectares of wasteland along with expanding its additional rice acreage by 35,000 hectares and its secondary crop acreage to some 100,000 hectares. [Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1240 GMT 4 May 77 BK]

DONG THAP RICE HARVEST--By 20 May, Dong Thap Province had completed harvesting winter-spring rice on the entire 44,651 hectares, with an average yield of 4 tons per hectare. Although representing only 67 percent of the planned area, the winter-spring rice acreage in the province this year increased by 46 percent over last year. [Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0245 24 May 77 BK]

DONG THAP PADDY PURCHASE--Dong Thap Province in April purchased 10,550 tons of paddy, bringing the total volume of paddy already purchased since early this year to 38,550 tons--equivalent to that of the entire year in 1976. [Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2345 GMT 5 May 77 BK]

GIA LAI-CONG TUM MANIOC--Gia Lai-Cong Tum Province has planted manioc on more than 25,000 hectares and is trying to finish planting 30,000 hectares before the end of May. This will be twice as much as in the same period last year. The provincial Agricultural Machinery Corporation has used two-thirds of its tractors to reclaim wasteland in the major manioc-growing areas such as Mang Yang Dakto and An Khe. Various responsible sectors in the province have made early preparations for the processing of manioc and are trying to make manioc a staple food in daily consumption in order to be self-sufficient in grain. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 16 May 77 BK]

HA NAM NINH DROUGHT--Ha Nam Ninh Province now has 24,300 hectares of 5th-month spring rice seriously affected by drought. The provincial agricultural material supply sector has supplied 600 tons of diesel oil to cooperatives to operate 526 diesel-powered pumps. Each day some 7,000-10,000 cooperative members in Hai Hau and Xuan Thuy districts have gone to the fields, carrying with them 3,500-4,200 water wheels and water baskets, to irrigate their ricefields. More than 7,000 hectares of 5th-month spring rice were reportedly saved from drought during the period 10 to 13 May. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 19 May 77 BK]

HA NAM NINH INSECTS--Some 29,000 hectares of 5th-month spring rice in Ha Nam Ninh Province are being ravaged by leaf rollers, grey leafhoppers and helminthosporium oryzae. More than 400 vegetation protection teams belonging to various agricultural cooperatives have taken turns to check ricefields and spray insecticide to prevent insects from spreading. In addition to spraying insecticide, peasants in Hai Hau, Xuan Thuy, Binh Luc, Yen Khanh, Kom Son and Nam Ninh districts have gone to the fields to catch insects and destroy leaf roller nests. [Excerpt] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 22 May 77 BK]

HAI HUNG CROPS--So far, Hai Hung Province has had over 50 percent of cooperatives plant oleaginous crops. Binh Minh, Khoai Chau, Tuyen Quang and other cooperatives are noted for having large areas of oleaginous crops. The output of essential oil produced in Hai Hung has increased markedly over the past few years, with 2,600 kilos in 1975 and 11,211.7 kilos in 1976. Hai Hung is more than able to overfulfill the 15-ton quota assigned by the state for 1977. It is expected that the province can produce 25 tons of essential oil this year. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 18 May 77 BK]

HAU GIANG PADDY PROCUREMENT--In April, peasants in Hau Giang Province turned over to the state an additional 10,000 tons of paddy as agricultural tax and surplus sale, bringing the total volume of paddy delivered to the state granary since the beginning of the 10th-month rice crop to 156,632 tons. [Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 6 May 77 BK]

HAI HUNG RICE--In this year's 10th-month rice crop, Hai Hung Province plans to sow 118,000 hectares, 40 percent of which will be directly sown rice. Cooperatives have thus far prepared more than 11,000 tons of rice seeds. They still need another 2,000 tons to sow early 10th-month rice. The province has instructed the agricultural material supply sector, the communications and transportation sector and all districts within the province to tackle the problem of rice seedlings for cooperatives. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 17 May 77 BK]

LONG AN RICE HARVEST--Peasants in Long An Province have completed harvesting the remaining 11,000 hectares of the total 45,682-hectare area of this year's winter-spring rice. They are accelerating earthwork to promptly sow and transplant the summer-fall rice. [Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2345 GMT 17 May 77 BK]

MEKONG DELTA RICE CULTIVATION--Thanks to the acceleration of the water conservancy task, provinces in the Mekong River Delta region have so far sown and transplanted the summer-fall rice on more than 60,000 hectares, achieving some 10 percent of the planned area. These provinces are now intensively doing earthwork to finish transplanting the remaining acreage. [Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 12 May 77 BK]

NGHE TINH CORN HARVEST--Various corn-growing cooperatives in Nghe Tinh Province are intensively preparing their manpower, facilities and tools to harvest 12,481 hectares of spring corn within 15 days. This is 2,347 hectares more than last year. There is a possibility that this year the spring corn will yield 18 to 20 quintals per hectare. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1300 GMT 23 May 77 BK]

NGHE TINH DROUGHT--More than 17,000 hectares of rice in Nghe Tinh Province have suffered from drought. A number of areas where rice plants are growing ears have been severely hit by drought, causing rice plants to become withered. The provincial people's committee and the agricultural and water-conservancy sectors have sent many cadres to examine the drought-stricken areas and to seek ways to combat drought. Several public organs in Vinh City and Hung Nguyen, Nam Dan, Do Luong, Duc Tho and Thanh Chuong districts have volunteered not to use electricity or have economized on the use of electricity in order to save it for drought-control purposes. Duc Tho, Cam Loc and Nam Dan districts have succeeded in irrigating 10,000 hectares of rice, thus saving them from being destroyed by drought. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 24 May 77 BK]

NGHE TINH MANIOC, CORN--Nguyen Luong Dan, chairman of the Cam Loc District People's Committee, Nghe Tinh Province, has disclosed that this year Cam Loc District planted 2,000 hectares of manioc, four times more than in 1976. Last year the district produced 34,800 tons of grain and 6,600 tons of manioc and other non-rice cereals. Phan Van De, secretary of the Huong Khe District party committee in the same province, has revealed that Huong Khe District is trying to increase its production of secondary crops, especially corn. This year the district has planted 2,000 hectares of corn, double that of the same period last year. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 20 May 77 BK]

NGHE TINH RICE--In this year's autumn and 10th-month growing seasons Nghe Tinh plans to sow rice and secondary crops on 211,000 hectares, an increase of more than 40,000 hectares. Of the 40,000 hectare increase, the secondary crop area will constitute 18,000 hectares, or 2.5 times more than that of the previous 10th-month growing season. Nghe Tinh Province is trying to reclaim 15,000 hectares of wasteland and hilly land to supply cooperatives with sufficient nong nghiep-22 new rice varieties to sow on schedule. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 20 May 77 BK]

NGHE TINH SWEET POTATOES--In this year's summer season Nghe Tinh Province plans to sow 20,000 hectares of sweet potatoes, a threefold increase over the same period last year. The experienced sweet-potato-growing districts of Cam Xuyen, Thach Ha, Cam Loc, Huong Khe and Thanh Chuong are concentrating on preparing the soil to sow sweet potato seedlings as soon as it rains. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0900 GMT 21 May 77 BK]

NGHE TINH SUBSIDIARY CROPS--Nghe Tinh Province has planted 85,900 hectares of this year's 5th-month spring subsidiary crops, recording an increase of 19,444 hectares over last year. Manioc has been planted beyond the planned norms by 48 percent, with an increase of 12,000 hectares over last year. The sweet potato area has been expanded by 17 percent, with an increase of more than 10,000 hectares over last year. The corn-planting norms have been fulfilled, recording an increase of 5,400 hectares. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 15 May 77 BK]

NGHIA BINH GRAIN PRODUCTION--According to Vo Hoang, secretary of the Nghia Binh provincial party committee, Nghia Binh Province is making every effort to increase its grain production in the hope of being able to produce 800,000 tons of grain by 1980. Despite difficulties arising from the reconstruction of its 189 villages heavily damaged during the war, Nghia Binh succeeded in cultivating 226,000 hectares and producing 440,000 tons of grain in 1976. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 20 May 77 BK]

SONG BE LAND RECLAMATION--This year Song Be Province will strive to reclaim 4,000 hectares of wasteland in the new economic areas and put into production some 30,000 hectares in an effort to gradually stabilize the livelihood and solve the grain problem for more than 140,000 new resettlers in the province. [Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 5 May 77 BK]

THAI BINH DROUGHT--Thai Binh Province has successfully saved 25,000 out of 40,000 hectares of spring rice from drought. The province is urging agricultural cooperatives to concentrate on combating drought and eradicating insects to protect riceplants toward the end of the 5th-month spring growing season. The provincial Agricultural Material Supply Corporation has provided cooperatives with 610 tons of diesel oil to insure the continuous operation of more than 1,000 diesel-powered pumps. Meanwhile the northern and southern Thai Binh farmland irrigation corporations have sent more workers to 300 electric pumping stations to maintain their round-the-clock operation. Cooperatives in the province have also sprayed insecticide on 3,000 hectares of rice, thereby saving them from being destroyed by stem borers, leap rollers and "brown spot" blight. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1300 GMT 19 May 77 BK]

THANH HOA DROUGHT--Because of a prolonged dry spell since early May, 39,000 hectares of the rice crop in Thanh Hoa have been affected by drought. A total of 800 mechanical pumps have been used to irrigate the rice paddies. The Thanh Hoa water-conservancy sector has also provided the districts of the province with dozens of mechanical pumps with an output of 1,000 cubic meters per hour. The provincial agricultural sector has provided the districts with 650 tons of diesel oil and assigned mechanical workers to various cooperatives to help farmers control the drought. Besides using mechanical pumps, many cooperatives in the seriously affected districts of Quang Xuong, Nong Cong, Yen Dinh, Ha Chung and Ngoc Lac have mobilized from 400 to 500 workers daily to irrigate rice paddies with water buckets and

water wheels. The Thanh Hoa power plant has repaired generators to provide more power used in irrigation. Thanks to these efforts, 10,000 hectares of rice crop have been saved. In addition to drought control, agricultural cooperatives in Thanh Hoa have spread insecticide to save more than 8,000 hectares of rice crop ravaged by insects and plant diseases. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 28 May 77 OW]

TAY NINH BANKING OPERATIONS--The Tay Ninh provincial bank collected a credit of 98,700 dong from individuals and approximately 2.4 million dong from state-run establishments in April 1977. The amount of money deposited in the bank by private individuals during the same period amounted to 107,775 dong, an increase of more than 23,000 dong over March 1977. Thanks to its satisfactory management of cash, in this year's summer-fall growing season the bank gave 584,086 dong of loans to peasants. It also arranged a transfer of funds to loan the peasants 62 tons of fertilizer, 1,655 liters of fuel, 9 pumps, 1 plow, 425 head of draft cattle and 3,465 hoes. [Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2345 GMT 22 May 77 BK]

VINH PHU RICE--In this year's 10th-month rice season, Vinh Phu Province plans to sow 90,000 hectares, an increase of 2,700 hectares over the same period last year. Kim Anh District will have the largest 10th-month rice area in the province--8,000 hectares. The provincial agricultural material supply sector has provided cooperatives with more than 8,100 tons of apatite, 6,100 tons of lime, approximately 4,000 tons of phosphate and 1,400 tons of nitrogenous fertilizer. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 17 May 77 BK]

HAI HUNG 10TH-MONTH RICE--This year agricultural cooperatives in Hai Hung Province plan to sow early 10th-month rice on approximately 36,000 hectares, representing 30 percent of the 10th-month rice acreage. This is to create conditions to increase the winter rice acreage by 50 percent over last year. These cooperatives are preparing manpower and Nong Nghiep-1 and Nong Nghiep-23 new rice varieties to sow early 10th-month rice on schedule. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 28 May 77 BK]

SOUTHERN RICE--So far, 17 southern provinces and cities have sown summer-fall rice in 141,000 hectares, representing 19.6 percent of the planned acreage. This figure includes 107,000 hectares sown in the Mekong Delta. Provinces with the largest rice areas sown so far are An Giang, Tien Giang, Lam Dong and Thuan Hai. [Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 28 May 77 BK]

HAIPHONG 10TH-MONTH RICE--This year Haiphong plans to sow 10th-month rice on 45,000 hectares, an increase of 1,000 hectares over last year. Agricultural cooperatives in Haiphong have thus far prepared 4,000 tons of rice seeds of different varieties. An Hai, An Thuy and Thuy Nguyen districts are striving to redistribute rice seedlings among cooperatives by transporting rice seedlings from areas with surpluses to areas with shortages. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0530 GMT 1 Jun 77 BK]

HA NAM NINH HOG BREEDING--Last month Ha Nam Ninh Province raised approximately 10,000 additional hogs, bringing the present number of hogs in the province to 597,000. This figure proves that Ha Nam Ninh has made considerable efforts in expanding its herd of hogs, despite difficulties arising from a shortage of grain. However, compared with the current demands, the number of hogs mentioned above is unremarkable. Along with increasing the number of hogs, Ha Nam Ninh has succeeded in planting more than 2,600 hectares of spring corn; 6,500 hectares of 5th-month sweet potatoes and 4,700 hectares of vegetables for use as feed. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 2 Jun 77 BK]

BEN TRE HOG BREEDING--By late May 1977, Ben Tre Province had 80,000 slaughter hogs and 14,000 sows--an increase of 50 percent over the same period last year. The province is building a hog breeding station and a feed processing plant. It has also guided peasants in pushing ahead hog breeding in order to gradually make hog breeding a major production sector. [Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0245 GMT 3 Jun 77 BK]

BEN TRE RICE--Despite numerous difficulties, Ben Tre Province plans to sow summer-fall rice on the entire 45,000 hectares. By late May 1977, the province had sown summer-fall rice on more than 13,000 hectares, or one-third of the planned acreage. [Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 3 Jun 77 BK]

VINH PHU DROUGHT--After only a short period of time, Vinh Phu Province has succeeded in getting sufficient water to save 10,000 hectares of rice from being destroyed by drought. Districts in the province have economized on the use of electricity to operate water pumps against drought. In addition, the province has successfully saved 2,000 hectares of rice from destruction by insects. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 3 Jun 77 BK]

HA SON BINH SECONDARY CROPS--In order to achieve the goal that by 1980 secondary-crops output should constitute 17 to 20 percent of the grain output, Ha Son Binh Province has urged various districts to prepare sufficient potato seedlings to sow in the forthcoming winter growing season. Approximately 10,000 hectares of land have been zoned off to sow corn along the Red, Da, Day and Boi rivers. Concentrated manioc growing areas have already been set up in mountainous and midland districts. The province was reported to have overfulfilled criteria for planting manioc in the current growing season by 10,000 hectares. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 4 Jun 77 BK]

TAY NINH SECONDARY CROPS--In this summer-fall season, Tay Ninh Province plans to sow secondary crops and short-term industrial crops--including manioc, corn, sweet potatoes, kaoliang, peanuts and sugarcane--on 46,000 hectares. In the first 20 days of May, the province succeeded in sowing secondary crops on approximately 5,000 hectares--more than 1,500 hectares of sugarcane; 1,500 hectares of manioc; 1,000 hectares of corn and 1,400 hectares of peanuts. [Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 30 May 77 BK]

THAI BINH HOG BREEDING--Thai Binh Province is guiding a number of agricultural cooperatives in breeding hogs according to industrial methods. Along with showing cooperatives how to produce combined feed, in 1976 the province successfully guided six agricultural cooperatives in Dong Hung District in mass breeding hogs according to industrial methods. These cooperatives have built pigpens according to technical standards and are breeding hogs with many kinds of combined feedstuffs supplied by the provincial feed supply corporation. This year Thai Binh has had 30 agricultural cooperatives which are experimenting with the breeding of 969 hogs. This figure does not include 4,257 hogs in regular herds. Experience shows that the application of industrial methods in hog breeding has helped cooperatives in quickly increasing their herds of hogs as well as the weight of marketable hogs. The province is striving to increase the number of hogs to between 800,000 and 1 million by 1980 with each marketable hog weighing 60 kilos or more. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0530 GMT 30 May 77 BK]

NGHE TINH CATTLE--In order to make animal husbandry a major production sector, agricultural cooperatives in Nghe Tinh Province have set aside from 10 to 15 percent of their manpower to set up professional animal husbandry teams. By 30 April, Nghe Tinh had raised nearly 370,000 head of cattle and buffalo, an increase of more than 2,500 over the same period last year. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 30 May 77 BK]

VINH PHU HOGS--In order to quickly expand the number of hogs following the 5th-month spring rice harvest, cooperatives in Vinh Phu Province have thus far prepared 85,725 breeding piglets despite difficulties arising from a grain shortage. Since early May 1977, districts in the province have distributed 23,300 breeding piglets to cooperatives. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 30 May 77 BK]

NORTHERN PROVINCES DROUGHT--Due to prolonged drought, by 20 May drought-stricken ricefields in the north constituted 32.8 percent of the rice acreage. Provinces hardest hit by drought are Thai Binh, Thanh Hoa, Hai Hung, Ha Nam Ninh and Vinh Phu. The number of drought-stricken ricefields in Hai Hung Province amounts to 30,000 hectares. So far, Thai Binh, Ha Nam Ninh, Thanh Hoa and Hai Hung provinces have respectively saved 30,000 hectares; 19,000 hectares; 8,000 hectares and 20,000 hectares of rice from drought. Along with fighting drought, northern provinces have used lanterns to trap moths and have sprayed insecticide to protect ricefields. They have also activated 4,860 professional irrigation units with approximately 308,300 members. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1300 GMT 29 May 77 BK]

NEW ECONOMIC AREAS--More than 60,000 people in Quang Nam-Danang Province have gone to build various new economic areas within the province. Those resettling in the mountainous area of Hoa Vang District have succeeded in reclaiming thousands of hectares of wasteland and planting tens of thousands of manioc plants and hundreds of hectares of rice and secondary crops. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0530 GMT 3 Jun 77 BK]

NGHIA BINH DROUGHT--Due to prolonged drought, Nghia Binh Province now has 6,000 hectares of rice and thousands of hectares of secondary crops which are in need of water. Hardest hit by drought are Phu My, Phu Cat, (?Tay Son), Binh Son, Son Tinh and Duc Pho districts, where peasants have focused their efforts on fighting drought to protect rice from destruction. While combating drought, Nghia Binh Province has sown 3,600 more hectares of summer-fall rice. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 4 Jun 77 BK]

BINH TRI THIEN CROPS--Binh Tri Thien Province has thus far planted secondary crops on more than 59,800 hectares or 109 percent of the planned acreage. This is an increase of 19,500 hectares over last year's winter-spring crops. Many areas of secondary crops in the province are now suffering from drought and are being ravaged by insects. The Provincial People's Committee has coordinated with related sectors in helping local peasants irrigate rice-fields to protect them from drought. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 1 Jun 77 BK]

DONG NAI LAND RECLAMATION--Hanoi, Jun 16--People in Dong Nai Province, north of Ho Chi Minh City, have this year reclaimed 20,000 hectares of land, more than 15,000 of which are now under cultivation. Almost 8,000 hectares have been reclaimed and tilled at 10 state farms in the province. [Excerpt] [Hanoi VNA in English 0300 GMT 16 Jun 77 OW]

CSO: 2700

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

READERS COMPLAIN ABOUT ELECTRIC POWER OUTAGES

Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 8 Apr 77 p 4

/Readers' Opinions column: "The Situation Regarding Very Extended Electric Power Outages"/

/Text/ We, the cadres, workers, and students in the collective zones of the Tran Hung Dao Machine Works, Hong Ha Office Supplies Factory, Office of the Ministry of Light Industry, Institute of Sanitation and Epidemiology, College of Pharmacology, and so on subordinate to the Tho Lao subregion, wish to discuss the following situation with the Zone 1 Electricity Management and Distribution Service:

For a month now in this zone, there have frequently been electric power outages. Every day from 1700 to 2100 hours, the most essential period of time for activities, the electricity has gone off. Sometimes, the outages have lasted an entire day or even an entire week. The extended electric power outages as above cause many difficulties for the lives of the cadres and workers and the studies of the children. We propose that the service urgently have measures to overcome this. -- Mai Huy (and a number of readers in the collective zones of the Tran Hung Dao Machine Works, Hong Ha Office Supplies Factory, College of Pharmacology, and Institute of Sanitation and Epidemiology).

11,943
CSO: 4909

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

BRIEFS

WIRED RADIO STATION--The Quang Nam-Danang Provincial Information and Cultural Service recently inaugurated a 1,200-watt wired radio station and the Hoi An Heritage Pavilion. This radio station is the second to have been built by the province this year. The Heritage Pavilion is designed to display hundreds of objects and pictures reflecting the Hoi An city dwellers' reputation of fighting indomitably under the party leadership in the past two wars of resistance. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 22 May 77 BK]

TELEX FACILITIES--The post and telegraph sector has installed a Telex system of teletypewriters using a telephone dial to establish connections at 64 public organs in Hanoi, Haiphong and Ho Chi Minh City in order to facilitate communications. This is an experimental project of the post and telegraph sector aimed at more effectively serving the requirements for radio communications and long-distance communications for economic purposes. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1300 GMT 13 May 77 BK]

CSO: 4909

LABOR

OVER 400 GO TO BUILD NEW ECONOMIC AREAS IN SONG BE, TAY NINH

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 19 Apr 77 pp 1, 4

[Article by M.V.: "More Than 400 Municipal Compatriots Continue To Leave To Build New Economic Areas"]

[Text] SGP--Today, 19 April, the new economic areas of the two provinces of Song Be and Tay Ninh continue to welcome over 400 more municipal compatriots who came there to establish new livelihoods.

This is the fourth departure phase of city people during April.

In Tan Binh Urban Ward, 41 families, consisting of 154 people, went to establish livelihoods in Van Lieh village (Tan Bien district, Tay Ninh Province) a village directly built by the people of the ward and inaugurated at the end of last year.

During this phase, Cay Truong 2 New Economic Village (Ben Cat district, Song Be Province) received 29 more families, consisting of 126 people from the 1st Precinct, who went to set up livelihoods. Since the beginning of 1977, the 1st Precinct has sent approximately 1,500 people to establish livelihoods and nearly 2,000 other people to return to their old homes to make a living.

In this phase Song Be Province is still receiving 76 people from Binh Chang district who have gone to establish livelihoods in Long Binh village (Ben Cat district) and 37 people from the 6th Precinct who went to build Lai Uyen village (Chon Thanh district).

9019

CSO: 4909

LABOR

SMALL BUSINESS FAMILIES RETURN TO VILLAGES, BUILD NEW ECONOMIC AREAS

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 18 Apr 77 p 1

[Article by T.Q.T.: "6th Precinct: Nearly 200 Families of Small Merchants Return to Villages and Go To Build New Economic Areas; 30 Small Merchants from Binh Tay Market Pool Capital To Set Up A Cattle Farm"]

[Text] SGP--Responding to an appeal to municipal women on 8 March from Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the Municipal People's Committee, many women merchants in the 6th Precinct have transferred to production, achieving excellent results.

In only 3 months, in spite of many difficulties the 6th Precinct had 20 small merchant families return to their villages and 45 families went to build new economic areas. Altogether in the first quarter of 1977, 118 small merchant families (313 people) returned to their villages and 69 other families (153 people) went to establish livelihoods in new economic areas.

That does not include the many small merchant families from such market areas as Benh Tay, Phu Lam, Binh Tien, and so on, who had many people go into agricultural work or to new economic areas.

Besides this, 30 women grocers from Binh Tay Market pooled capital to set up a farm to raise pigs in Binh Chanh district, completely abandoning their former professions. In addition dozens of other small merchants who received direct motivation and assistance from the Women's Union Chapter also registered and gathered together sewing machines and established a ready-made clothing section.

9010

CSO: 4909

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

CHARACTERISTICS OF SOVIET AN-30 PHOTOGRAPHY AIRCRAFT DESCRIBED

Hanoi KHOA HOC VA DOI SONG in Vietnamese 16 Apr 77 pp 6, 16

[Article by Le Quy Thuc, MS in Photosurveying: "The AN-30 Photography Aircraft"]

[Text] Our country's air photography sector was recently equipped with a special-use Soviet AN-30 photography aircraft (see picture below).

The best altitude for taking pictures is 6,000 meters above sea level and the most suitable speed is 430 kilometers/hour; with the capacity to hold 5,500 kilograms of fuel and 580 kilograms of reserve fuel, the operating range of the aircraft is 2,600 kilometers; it needs a runway at least 1,800 meters long in order to take off and land.

The navigation room was designed at the front of the aircraft with transparent glass in front and on both sides and on the floor below the seat there are four telescopic lenses to ensure broad and good observation for the navigator.

Thanks to the automatic pilot systems with automatic circling elements and the instrument systems, it is possible to maintain accuracy for the direction of flight and angle of inclination and turn around in approximately ± 0.5 degrees with a stable aircraft elevation within approximately ± 20 meters.

On the aircraft, an AFA-41-7.5 camera has been installed, with the largest pictures being 18 X 18 centimeters and with 75 millimeter negatives, an image angle [goc truong anh] of 119 degrees, and a lens having a maximum distortion error of 0.02 millimeters. There is a perfectly square grid on the pictures in order to check the degree of distortion and the degree of pressure of the film. The AFA-41 camera is installed on a stable TAU-M rotor balance mount, ensuring a picture inclination within ± 15 minutes of arc.

Besides this, a set of three A54/50-FK cameras has been installed, with 500 millimeter negatives, 30 X 30 centimeter pictures; one camera has a perpendicular optical axis and the two side cameras have an optical axis joined to the plumb line at an angle of 28 degrees.

After inspecting and accepting the aircraft, we organized taking text photographs at an altitude of 700 meters with a ratio of 1:10,000 over a 1,200 square kilometer lowlands region and fulfilled the technical requirements well. The automatic pilot system was maintained on 50-kilometer portions of the flight and the error concerning the degree of horizontal curvature [do phu ngang] of the pictures did not exceed 5 percent as compared with the design.

It can temporarily be concluded that the AN-30 photography aircraft well satisfies the needs of taking pictures in the present stage of building the economy and national defense.



The special-use AN-30 photography aircraft.

11,943
CSO: 4909

CHRONOLOGY

HANOI REVIEW OF EVENTS FOR AUGUST 1976-MARCH 1977 PERIOD

Hanoi VIETNAM COURIER in English Oct-Nov 76, Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr 77 pp 31-32

[Text]

August 16 – September 15, 1976

AUGUST

17 — At the Colombo Non-Aligned Summit Conference Prime Minister Pham Van Dong said: "We are resolved to be self-reliant, win back sovereignty over our economy, carry out democratic and social reforms in order to bring the latent capacity of the people into play in national construction."

19 — President Ton Duc Thang of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam sent a message of sympathy to the earthquake victims in the Republic of the Philippines.

— Father Jean-Baptiste Ho Thanh Bien died. He was Acting Chairman of the National Liaison Committee of Patriotic and Peace Loving Vietnamese Catholics.

— The SRVN was elected to the 15-member Coordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries.

— VNA: The SRVN had established diplomatic relations with 97 countries in the world and is a member of 22 world organisations: UN (as observer), UNDP, UNCTAD, UNICEF, UNHCR, ITU, UPU, UNESCO, IAEA, FAO, WFP, WFC, WMO, WHO, IBRD, IMF, ADB, ESCAP, IRRDB, the non-aligned movement, the "group of 77" the 3rd Conference on the Law of the Sea organized by the UN.

20 — The SRVN applied for UN membership.

— The Vietnamese civil aviation company (covering the whole country from north to south) began passenger-ticket sales for regular flights.

21 — The SRVN Embassy in Cuba held a ceremony to decorate Cuban cadres and workers who have shown merit in helping the Vietnamese people build their country.

22 — VNA: The State Commission for Science and Technology of the SRVN published the 1975 list of 1,599 State standards and 866 norms for various branches of production.

23 — The first Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Germany to the SRVN presented his credentials...

— Tea planted on 40,000 hectares in the SRVN represents a three-fold increase as compared to the period before the August Revolution. Nearly 50 State farms and hundreds of cooperatives are specialized in tea planting and trading.

— The Inspection Committee of the Government of the SRVN organized 2,912 people's inspection committees at grassroots level with a total of 20,000 inspectors.

25 — Inauguration of the First Congress of Children of Uncle Ho, held in Ho Chi Minh City.

— The Light Industry College held a graduation ceremony for 87 students of the 6th intake, bringing the number of engineers trained by the College to 1,328, 41% of them women.

26—The spokesman of the SRVN Foreign Ministry denounced acts of terrorism against Vietnamese residents in Thailand and demanded that the Bangkok administration take immediate measures to stop these acts.

27—Decoration with orders of 71 localities and units which worked well in building President Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum. So far, 1.7 million people, including 1,518 delegations of foreign guests, have come to pay tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at the Mausoleum.

—Inauguration of An Loc bridge, the longest bridge in Binh Tri Thien province, crossing the Bo river.

—On the occasion of his visit to Con Dao (Poulo Condor) Comrade Le Duan, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, who spent several years in prison there himself, reminded the cadres, soldiers and people there to "promote the tradition of heroism of Con Dao island and strive to build the island into a prosperous and beautiful region, a precious pearl of the Viet Nam Fatherland".

28—VNA: Nine kindergartens with the best achievements in child-care in northern Viet Nam were awarded Labour Orders by the National Assembly.

—Arrival in Hanoi of a Kampuchean Women's delegation led by Mrs. Leng Say, member of the Assembly of the People's Representatives, member of the Executive Committee of the Kampuchean Democratic Women's Union of Phnom Penh City, on a friendship visit to Viet Nam.

—A delegation of the Viet Nam—Soviet Union Friendship Association led by Hoang Minh Giam, member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front left Hanoi for a friendship visit to the Soviet Union and to participate in activities in celebration of the 31st National Day of Viet Nam in the Soviet Union.

—Hoang Van Tien, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, envoy of the President of the SRVN, ended his friendship visit to a number of African countries, including the Republic of Cape Verde, the Republic of Congo and Nigeria.

29—VNA: 15 cities and towns in southern Viet Nam have harvested 166,830 ha. of summer-autumn rice crops and finished transplanting 1,073,640 ha. of winter rice.

31—The President of the SRVN made public an order granting amnesty to those convicts or inmates of re-education camps who had made progress during their re-education.

—Hanoi: Premier Pham Van Dong received Cardinal Trinh Nhu Khue who had recently returned from his consecration in Vatican.

—Signing in Moscow of a plan for cultural and scientific cooperation for 1976 between the SRVN and the USSR.

SEPTEMBER

1 — An SRVN Government delegation, led by Vice-Premier Le Thanh Nghi, member of the Political Bureau of the Viet Nam Workers' Party Central Committee, ended its friendship visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic which began on August 29. During the visit the two countries have signed a number of agreements on cooperation and mutual assistance, such as an agreement on gratuitous aid and interest-free loans granted to Laos by Viet Nam in 1976 and 1977; an agreement on economic, cultural, scientific and technical cooperation; an agreement on the formation of the Viet Nam — Laos Commission for Economic, Cultural, Scientific and Technical Cooperation; an agreement on trade and an agreement on transit freight between the two countries.

— Merging of Radio Giai Phong and the Voice of Viet Nam Radio. Radio Giai Phong was turned into a regional section of the Voice of Viet Nam Radio in Ho Chi Minh City.

— 37 Universities and colleges in northern Viet Nam opened for the new school year.

— Premier Pham Van Dong received Archbishop Nguyen Kim Diem of Hue.

2 — 31st National Day of the SRVN. Premier Pham Van Dong delivered a speech on the occasion. (see text in this issue).

— One of the main streets in the capital city of Mozambique was renamed Ho Chi Minh.

— The Thai Nguyen Non-ferrous Metallurgical Plant (Bac Thai province) officially put its antimony workshop into operation.

— Sven Anderson, Swedish Foreign Minister, declared: "Sweden will do all it can to gain Viet Nam her rightful place in the UN."

3 — All public offices in Ho Chi Minh City adopted statutory working hours: from 8 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

4 — Chinese specialists who have helped Viet Nam in building a Film Processing Factory decorated with Labour Orders and Friendship Medals.

6 — VNA: So far southern Viet Nam has set up 50 State farms, some of them old plantations which have been transformed.

— VNA: Northern Viet Nam has established 36 work-and-study third level general education schools with a total of 8,000 pupils.

7 — Signing in Vientiane of a civil aviation agreement between Viet Nam and Laos.

— Signing in Hanoi of an agreement on cultural cooperation for 1976-77 between Viet Nam and Poland.

— A delegation of the SRVN Ministry of culture led by Minister Nguyen Van Hieu left for Ulan Bator (Mongolia) to attend the Conference of Ministers of Culture of the socialist countries.

— Founding of the Viet Nam Committee for Solidarity with the Chilean People with Ha Xuan Truong, Vice-Minister of Culture, as Chairman.

— New York: the Co-ordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries called on its member

countries to support Viet Nam's application for UN membership: "Any opposition to Viet Nam's application for UN membership is contrary to law, morals and the UN charter."

8 — Hanoi: The Viet Nam Journalists' Association held a meeting to celebrate the 30th founding anniversary of the International Journalists' Organization.

— Premier Pham Van Dong received representatives of the Viet Nam Unified Association of Buddhists.

10 — The Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the Standing Committee of the National Assembly and the Government of the SRVN sent a message of condolences on the demise of Chairman Mao Tsetung, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, Chairman of the Military Commission of the CPC Central Committee, Honorary Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. In Hanoi, leaders of the Party and Government of the SRVN called on the Embassy of the People's Republic of China to convey their sympathies and condolence. The SRVN Government decided that flags would be flown at half-mast on September 18 in mourning of Chairman Mao Tsetung.

11 — Warsaw: Signing of a civil aviation agreement between Viet Nam and Poland.

— The spokesman of the SRVN Foreign Ministry issued a statement revealing US manoeuvres in hampering the negotiations between Viet Nam and the US on the implementation of Article 8 (b) (concerning US MIAs) and Article 21 (concerning the US obligation to contribute to healing the wounds of war in Viet Nam) of the Paris Agreement.

14 — Premier Pham Van Dong sent a message of sympathy to victims of the recent floods in Japan.

— On the proposal of the French UN delegate, the Security Council of the UN decided to postpone considering the SRVN application for UN membership until November 1976.

— Tokyo: Signing of an agreement on gratuitous aid from Japan to the SRVN in 1976.

15 — 12 million pupils of 20,000 secondary schools began the 1976-1977 academic year, the first school-year of the SRVN. On this occasion President Ton Duc Thang sent a letter to all teachers and pupils in the whole country. The Ministry of Education supplied the schools with 900 tons of school materials.

— The Executive Committee of the International Monetary Fund decided to recognize SRVN membership in spite of US protests.

— The Hanoi — Hue civil air-route was opened.

— BBC: Senator M. Mansfield, leader of the Democratic Party at the US Senate, said that the US should establish normal diplomatic relations with Viet Nam and Kampuchea, because the quicker these relations were established the sooner the US would know about the fate of missing Americans.

September 16 — October 15, 1976

SEPTEMBER

16. — Vice-Premier Le Thanh Nghi received a Soviet delegation headed by Director Smirnov of the Leningrad Institute of Urbanism, on a visit in connection with Soviet cooperation with Viet Nam on transformation and construction of the capital of Hanoi.

— Up to now, Ho Chi Minh City has restored and put in operation 6,000 small industrial and handicraft enterprises.

— The Teachers' Training College in Hanoi enrolled 400 demobilised soldiers as students for the school year 1976-1977.

17. — A two-year plan of Cultural Cooperation (1976-1977) between the SRVN and the SR of Czechoslovakia was signed in Hanoi.

— Inauguration of the Tien An bridge crossing the Ben Hai river (Binh Tri Thien province). It is 120 metres long and is an important link on the Salung — Dong Ha section of the "Reunification" railway.

— VNA: the Cogivina paper mill (Dong Nai) has carried out a successful experiment using ordinary wood instead of pine-wood for the production of newsprint.

— Mr. Knut Frydenland, Foreign Minister of Norway, received Dinh Duc Thien, Minister for Petroleum and Gas Affairs of the SRVN Government.

18. Arrival in Hanoi of a Lao Women's delegation headed by Mrs. Kham Pheng Boupha, member of the Standing Committee of the Lao Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Lao Patriotic Women's Association.

19. — Hoang Luong, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, Envoy of the Prime Minister of the SRVN Government, ended his friendship visit to the United States of Mexico begun on September 10, 1976.

— Closing session of the 9th Congress of the International Union of Prehistory and Protohistory Science (IUPPS) of UNESCO. The SRVN was admitted as a member, and four seats were reserved for Vietnamese archaeologists. Professor Pham Huy Thong, Director of the Viet Nam Archeological Institute, attended the congress and was elected member of the IUPPS Standing Committee.

20. — Inauguration of the Co Loa Film Processing Workshop (Hanoi) built with Chinese assistance.

— Prime Minister Pham Van Dong sent a message of congratulation to the 8th Congress of the International Organization of Journalists (I.O.J.) held in Helsinki (Finland).

— Arrival in Hanoi of the Cultural Delegation of the L.P.D.R. headed by Mr. Ounheune Phoumsavat, Vice-Minister of Infor-

mation, Propaganda, Culture and Tourism, on a visit to Viet Nam.

— Prime Minister Pham Van Dong received a Cuban delegation headed by Ramon Castro Ruz, Director of the Vandeda Picadura Cattle Breeding Centre.

— Merging of youth organizations throughout the country under the name of Viet Nam Youth Federation headed by Professor Le Quang Vinh.

— IBRD admitted the SRVN as member.

— Opening of the 31st session of the UN General Assembly, Mr. Amerasinghe, Chairman of the session, said that the reunification of Viet Nam is an unprecedented historical event after World War II; and that Viet Nam is fully entitled to become member of the UN.

— Inauguration of the Hanoi — Ho Chi Minh City — Phnom Penh civil aviation route.

— A delegation of the Ministry of Labour headed by Minister Nguyen Tho Chan left for Warsaw (Poland) to attend the conference of ministers of socialist countries on apprenticeship.

— A delegation of the SRVN headed by Tran Cong Tuong, Director of the Government legislative committee, left Hanoi for the Conference of socialist ministers of justice held in Sofia (Bulgaria).

— Opening in Berlin of a conference of socialist countries on theoretical studies of art and literature. The Vietnamese delegation was headed by Nguyen Khanh Toan, alternate member of the VNWP Central Committee, Director of the Social Sciences Committee.

— The Government of the DPR of Korea issued a statement condemning the hostile policy of the USA toward Viet Nam.

— A meteorological delegation of the SRVN headed by Nguyen Xien, Director of the Meteorological Department, attended a conference of directors of meteorological departments of socialist countries held in Bulgaria.

23. — Up to now, the industrial enterprises and cooperatives in the North have opened 235 schools and 1,000 classes for professional training of 100,000 skilled workers of 300 different trades every year.

— The Asian Development Bank (ADB) recognized the membership of the SRVN.

— Signing in Hanoi of a two-year plan of medical cooperation (1976 — 1977) between the SR of Viet Nam and the DPR of Korea.

24. — Signing in Hanoi of a two-year protocol on cultural cooperation (1976-1977) between the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the German Democratic Republic.

25.—Arrival in Hanoi of a Soviet film delegation.

26.—A delegation of the SRVN Foreign Ministry headed by Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Hoang Luong ended its friendship visit to Cuba.

27.—VNA: The International Organization of Journalists (IOJ) conferred a Julius Fucik Medal on the Cuban Committee for Solidarity with Viet Nam, Kampuchea and Laos.

28.—The Constitution Drafting Committee held its 2nd plenary session.

—The UN delegations of the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia and Costa Rica demanded the admission of the SRVN to this international forum.

29.—Arrival in Hanoi of a Portuguese T.U. delegation for a friendship visit to Viet Nam.

—The Cuban Institute of Books handed to the SRVN Embassy in Havana the first of 15,000 copies of "Prose and Poems" by President Ho Chi Minh, published in Spanish by the Cuban Literature and Art Publishing House.

—The Canadian Ministry of External Affairs issued a statement supporting SRVN application for UN membership.

OCTOBER

1.—Signing in Ulan Bator of a programme of cultural cooperation for 1976-1977 between the SRVN and the People's Republic of Mongolia.

—Participation of the SRVN in the 13th Baghdad Fair held in the Republic of Iraq.

—According to the daily *Nhan Dan*, the Geological Mapping Department has successfully experimented with the use of charcoal of Japanese lilac tree (*Melia azedarach*) for gold-tests, replacing the special charcoal which has been imported up to now.

2.—Hoang Luong, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, Envoy of the SRVN Government, ended his friendship visit to Canada. He has held talks with members of the Canadian Government.

—Participation of the SRVN in the 13th Algiers International Fair.

3.—The Duyen Hai Engineering Workshop (Hai Phong) launched a 400-HP fishing boat

provided with up-to-date equipment. The boat can work at sea for 15—20 days without returning to harbour.

4.—Decoration of Soviet technicians who helped with the embalming of President Ho Chi Minh's body and the construction of his mausoleum.

5.—Rajendra Coomaraswamy, Assistant-Director General and Director of the Asia-Pacific sector of the United Nations program of development assistance to Viet Nam, arrived on a visit to Viet Nam to discuss the modalities of application of the 49.2 million dollar aid program for Viet Nam in the next four years (1977-1980).

6.—Statement of the Viet Nam Workers' Party Central Committee on the convening of the Party's Fourth Congress in mid-December 1976.

8.—Opening in Hanoi of the 1976 Athletics Contest, the first to be held after the reunification of the country.

—Prime Minister Pham Van Dong received a visiting Indian agricultural delegation headed by Dr. M. A. Swaminathan, Chairman of the Indian Agricultural Scientific Study Council.

—The Hydraulics College held a graduation ceremony for 307 engineers of the 13th regular intake.

—Signing in Hanoi of a protocol on cultural and scientific cooperation between the SRVN and the P.R. of Bulgaria for 1976-1977.

—The Viet Nam Youth Federation and the Viet Nam Students' Federation issued a statement condemning the bloody repression of the Thai dictatorial militarist clique against Thai students and inhabitants in Bangkok on October 6, 1976.

—Opening of the Hanoi — Vientiane civil aviation route.

—A Vietnamese artistic ensemble, led by Vice-Minister of Culture Nong Quoc Chan, left for a visit to Laos.

—Signing in Moscow of a protocol on radio and television cooperation between the SRVN and the USSR for 1977-1978.

15.—A Budapest artistic troupe arrived in Hanoi to begin a tour of performances in Viet Nam.

October 16 — December 15, 1976

OCTOBER

17. The pavilion of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam at the International Fair in Algiers receives a gold medal. The Vietnamese representative is appointed Executive Committee member of the recently set-up Third World Fair Association.

19. Opening in Hanoi of an international passenger-train conference, attended by railway delegations from Viet Nam, the Soviet Union, China, Korea, Mongolia and a representative of the International Rail Cooperation Commission.

— Statement issued by the International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL) condemns the US preventing Viet Nam from joining the U.N.

— Signing of a protocol by which the French Government grants the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam non-refundable aid for the construction and equipment of a centre for the training of French language teachers.

20. A Vietnamese delegation headed by Ngo Dien, Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs of the SRVN, leaves the country to attend the 19th session of UNESCO in Nairobi (Kenya).

22. Agricultural conference in southern Viet Nam: provinces from Quang Nam — Da Nang to Minh Hai discuss measures to be taken to encourage all-sided development of agriculture.

23. Closing in Pyong Yang of the civil aviation conference of socialist countries, attended by the SRVN.

24. Arrival of a Soviet folk dance ensemble for a visit and performances in Viet Nam.

25. Harvest of early rice on 95,310 hectares in 18 provinces and towns of northern Viet Nam, yielding an average 2.2 tons/hectare.

— *Nhan Dan*: Vietnamese Party and State leaders send a message to Hua Kuo-feng congratulating him on his appointment as Chairman of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and Chairman of the Party Central Military Committee of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party.

27. VNA: Departure of a Viet Nam Workers' Party delegation headed by Hoang Van Hoan, Political Bureau member, to attend the 7th Congress of the Party of Labour of Albania.

28. A delegation of the Hungarian Ministry of Education headed by its Vice-Minister visits Ho Chi Minh City.

30. Melba Hernandez, head of a delegation of the Cuba-Viet Nam Friendship Association, is decorated with the Independence Order while on a visit to Viet Nam.

— Nguyen Co Thach, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of the SRVN, leaves Hanoi for official friendship visits to France, Holland and Belgium.

— A song and dance ensemble of the PDR Korean Army visits Viet Nam and gives performances.

— 11 provinces in southern Viet Nam report completion of an initial survey of forest land and resources, and delimitation of areas reserved for agriculture and forestry.

NOVEMBER

2. Arrival in Hanoi of a Chinese Martial Arts team for a visit and performances in Viet Nam.

— Opening in Paris of the "Viet Nam of Ho Chi Minh" photo exhibition of many large-sized photos taken by the French photographer Roger Pic during his many visits to Viet Nam.

— The Hanoi press carried the SRVN Government statement dated September 25, 1976 on policy regarding private capitalist industry and trade in southern Viet Nam.

— Signing in Hanoi of an agreement between the SRVN and Sweden on economic cooperation and aid for 1976-1977.

— Arrival in Hanoi of a delegation of the USSR — Viet Nam Friendship Society.

— Ceremony held in Moscow by the SRVN Embassy to decorate Soviet technicians who took part in the building of President Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum.

5. *Nhan Dan* prints the outline of the draft Political Report of the Party Central Committee to the 4th Party Congress.

6. Establishment of diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level between the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe.

— A delegation of the Viet Nam Peace Committee, headed by Phan Anh, Chairman of the Presidium of the Committee, leaves Hanoi for a friendship visit to the Soviet Union.

7. First Trade Union Congress held in Ho Chi Minh City.

— Signing in Hanoi of a three-year plan (1976-1978) for cultural and scientific relations between the SRVN and the SR of Romania.

9. Arrival in Hanoi of a delegation of the Ministry of Public Health of the P.R. of Hungary headed by Minister of State Zsozon Eva.

— Vice-Premier Nguyen Duy Trinh receives a Burmese journalists' delegation led by the Burmese Vice-Minister of Information, on a visit to Viet Nam.

— Arrival in Hanoi of an economic delegation of the Government of Holland, headed by Mr. Jonsman, deputy-head of the International Cooperation Department of the Dutch Foreign Ministry, for discussions on economic assistance and cooperation between Viet Nam and Holland.

10. Signing in Hanoi of a protocol between the SRVN and SR of Romania on exchanges of goods and payment for 1977.

— Signing in Hanoi of a protocol on postal exchanges between the SRVN and the Republic of India.

— Ambassador Ha Van Lau, envoy of the SRVN Government, ends his friendship visit to Jamaica.

11. Signing in Hanoi of a protocol between the SRVN and SR of Czechoslovakia on exchange of goods and payment for 1977.

— *Nhan Dan*: A delegation of the Viet Nam Workers' Party leaves Hanoi for Portugal to attend the 8th Congress of the Community Party of Portugal.

12. An agreement on medical cooperation between the SRVN and PR of Hungary is signed in Hanoi.

13. Signing in Hanoi of a proces-verbal on economic cooperation between the SRVN and the Kingdom of Holland.

VNA: A conference of scientific and technical workers presided over by Vice-Premier Vo Nguyen Giap is held to discuss fundamental problems of the scientific and technical revolution in Viet Nam.

14. Signing in Tokyo of a document according to which Japan grants Viet Nam non-refundable aid for 1976.

15. The Romanian Government economic delegation headed by Vice-Premier Paul Niculescu, Chairman of the Romanian section of the Commission for economic, scientific and technical cooperation with Viet Nam, ends its visit to Viet Nam. The delegation came to attend the 4th session of the Viet Nam—Romania economic, scientific and technical cooperation commission.

On this occasion many documents concerning this cooperation, between the two countries are signed.

16. The Coordinating Committee of Non-aligned Countries issued a statement in New York sternly condemning the US for vetoing the SRVN application for UN membership.

20. A Vietnamese trade delegation led by Nguyen Chanh, Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade, leaves Hanoi for friendship visits to Sweden and Finland.

— Vice-Premier and Minister of Construction Do Muoi leaves Hanoi on a visit to the Soviet Union.

— Mrs Kate Aberli, professor of anthropology and social psychology at the University of British Columbia (Canada), ends her friendship visit to the SRVN.

24. Signing in Prague of an agreement and a proces-verbal on cooperation between the *Voice of Viet Nam Radio* and the Czechoslovak *Broadcasting Service* for 1976-1980.

25. Opening in Ho Chi Minh City of a conference for all provinces in southern Viet Nam,

to discuss measures to enforce uniform legislation throughout the country.

— Signing in Hanoi of an agreement between the SRVN and the GDR on trade and aid for 1977.

— *Nhan Dan*: Party branch congresses held in provinces and municipalities, in preparation for the 4th Party Congress, have ended in success.

26. With 124 votes for, one against (US), and 3 abstentions (Great Britain, Federal Republic of Germany and Israel), the UN General Assembly passes a resolution demanding favourable re-examination by the Security Council of the SRVN application for UN membership.

27. Departure of a SRVN National Assembly delegation headed by Hoang Van Hoan, Party Politbureau member, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National Assembly, to attend the first session of the National Assembly of the Republic of Cuba.

— Signing in Hanoi of an agreement on cooperation in radio and T.V. broadcasting between the SRVN and the PDR of Korea.

30. VNA: Departure of a SRVN Government delegation headed by ambassador Dinh Ba Thi to attend the investiture of Mexican President José Lopez Portillo.

DECEMBER

1. The first agreement on scientific cooperation between the SRVN and the PR of Bulgaria is signed in Hanoi.

— Signing in Stockholm of a trade agreement between the SRVN and Sweden.

4. The Reunification railway line between Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City is opened to traffic.

9. President Ton Duc Thang sends a congratulatory message on the 20th anniversary of the foundation of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA).

— Message of Prime Minister Pham Van Dong to the International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL) on the occasion of its 30th founding anniversary.

11. VNA: For the first time Candidates of Science (Ph.D) defend their theses at the College of Mining and Geology and the Hanoi Polytechnic.

— Signing of a postal agreement between the SRVN and the Republic of Iraq.

12. Arrival in Hanoi of twenty-nine delegations of communist and workers' parties and national liberation movement to attend the 4th Congress of the Viet Nam Workers' Party.

14. Opening of the 4th Congress of the Viet Nam Workers' Party. The Congress is attended by 1,008 delegates representing 1.5 million members throughout the country. Le Duan, First Secretary of the Party, presents the Political Report of the Party Central Committee.

December 16, 1976 -- January 15, 1977

DECEMBER 1976

16—On the 3rd day of the 4th Congress of Communist Party of Viet Nam, Pham Van Dong, member of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee and Prime Minister, presents the 1976-1980 Five-Year Plan.

17—At the 4th Congress, Le Duc Tho, member of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee, presents a Report on Reviewing Party-building Work and the Amendments to the Party Constitution.

—VNA: Four tractors are bought with 200,000 francs contributed by Vietnamese workers in France to the fund-raising movement to help national reconstruction at home.

18—Party and State leaders of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam send their congratulations to L.I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

—In Hanoi, representatives of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the Republic of India sign an agreement on cultural cooperation and exchanges between the two countries.

19—VNA: The Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party sends a congratulatory message to Luis Corvalan, General Secretary of the Chilean Communist Party, on his release from prison by the fascist Pinochet clique.

—In a cordial meeting the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Viet Nam meets representatives of families whose members have rendered meritorious services to the revolution and who have come to Hanoi to visit the capital city and greet the 4th Party Congress.

20—Closing of the 4th Congress of the Communist Party of Viet Nam. The Congress decides to rename the Party the Communist Party of Viet Nam (formerly the Viet Nam Workers' Party) and unanimously adopts the line for socialist construction throughout the country. A new Central Committee is elected comprising 133 members (including 32 alternate members). Le Duan is elected Secretary General of the Party.

21—In Hanoi, the Central Committee of the Ho Chi Minh Working Youth Union receives the decision of the Party to rename the Union the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union.

22—In Hanoi, representatives of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the Republic of Cuba sign an agreement on economic, scientific and technical co-operation for the period 1976-1980.

—The press of the fraternal communist parties warmly acclaim the brilliant success of the 4th Congress of the Communist Party of Viet Nam. *Pravda* writes: "The 4th Congress of the Vietnamese Communists held recently in Hanoi is a major event marking a new develop-

ment of the international communist and workers' movement."

—The Ministry of Agriculture sends a contingent of 300 agro-engineers and agronomists from Agricultural College No.2 to work in various provinces in the South.

23—The Executive Committee of the Viet Nam Federation of Trade Unions calls on workers and all labouring people throughout the country to strive to carry out successfully the resolutions of the 4th Party Congress. Many factories and enterprises respond to this appeal enthusiastically and launch stirring drives of "concerted socialist emulation".

24—*Nhan Dan*: The Prime Minister issues instructions to organize a socialist emulation movement aimed at the successful implementation of the resolutions of the 4th Party Congress, the Five-Year Plan (1976-1980) and the 1977 State Plan.

—Ho Chi Minh City: Inauguration of the exhibition "The Communist Party of Viet Nam, leader and organizer of all victories of the Vietnamese revolution".

25—VNA: In the past 18 months, 700,000 people from Ho Chi Minh City have gone to various provinces in Eastern Nam Bo and the outlying districts of the city to build new economic zones.

27—Completion of a new phosphate plant with a capacity of 20,000 tons per annum.

—Opening of a course of study on the resolutions of the 4th Party Congress organized by the Propaganda and Training Board of the Party Central Committee.

28—The Government Council decides that the elections to the People's Councils in the provinces and cities directly under the central authority will be held on April 17, 1977.

30—The Government Council notes that "the State Plan and budget for 1976 have been successfully implemented in many fields" and issues a communique saying "1977 must a year of labour, economization and production to ensure enough for consumption and also for some accumulation".

—Inauguration of the medical glass factory in Hai Duong built with Chinese assistance. The factory can produce 1,500 tons of glass tube per year; and its main products are ampoules, bottles for pills and penicillin phials.

31—The Thong Nhat (Reunification) Railway linking Hanoi with Ho Chi Minh City is opened to traffic.

—VNA: In 1976 the Central Book Distribution Service issued 17,500,000 copies of books and 32 million other cultural items.

—The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Viet Nam sends its congratulations to the Central Committee of the Spanish Communist Party on the release from jail of San-

tiago Carrillo, General Secretary of the Spanish Communist Party, and seven other leading members of the Party.

— Inauguration of the memorial centre dedicated to President Ho Chi Minh in Tan Hoa (Thai Binh province).

— VNA : The whole of Viet Nam now has 47 universities and colleges with 103,000 students and a teaching staff of 10,000.

JANUARY 1977

1 — The General Department for Civil Aviation re-opens the service between Hanoi, Nasan and Dien Bien Phu (300 km).

3 — The Military Institute for high-ranking officers of the Viet Nam People's Army opens its first course.

4 — The Thong Nhat Railway inaugural train, which departed from Ho Chi Minh City on December 31, 1976, arrives at Hanoi Station.

— The electricity and coal service holds a conference to discuss measures to improve service to agricultural production and the local economy.

— VNA : up to 85.8% of the peasant families in Thai Binh province raise their own pigs. The number of pigs in this sector has risen to 353,400, accounting for 72% of the total number in the province.

6 — Closing of the 9th conference of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front. The conference unanimously agrees to convene the Congress of the Viet Nam National United Front in Ho Chi Minh City at the end of January 1977.

— In Budapest, representatives of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the Hungarian People's Republic sign a protocol on goods-exchange and payments for 1977.

— VNA : Ho Chi Minh City has built a "green belt" which includes 6,000 hectares of vegetables.

8 — Inauguration of the Television Relay Station in Vinh, capital of Nghe Tinh province.

10 — In Hanoi, the Cuban ambassador holds a ceremony to present commemorative medals issued on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the attack on the Moncada barracks, which the Cuban Government has decided to confer

on many Party and State leaders as well as representatives of various public organs and mass organizations in the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

— VNA : The Socialist Youth Labour School in Hoa Binh (Ha Son Binh province) holds a graduation ceremony for its first batch of 55 agro-engineers.

— The "Milestone 6" coal mine in Quang Ninh province, assisted by the General Meteorological Department, completes a meteorological station to serve coal extraction from coal seams 25 metres below sea level.

— The Co-ordinating Committee of news agencies of non-aligned countries meets in Cairo. Delegates of 14 member countries, including the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, attend the conference.

11 — Opening of the Second Session of the National Assembly (Sixth Legislature) of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

— VNA : Over the past 15 years, the College of Economy and Planning has trained 4,000 economic cadres.

14 — A physical culture and sports delegation of the Viet Nam People's Army leaves Hanoi for a friendly visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

— VNA : Completion of the Text-Book Printing House (under the Ministry of Education) with equipment supplied as aid by China. The printing-works has five work-shops: type-setting and casting, typography, offset-printing, book-binding and machines repair. The printing-works has a capacity of three billion pages a year, 70 per cent of its work is automated, and it can print four languages.

— In Pyongyang, representatives of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sign an agreement on civil aviation between the two countries.

15 — The Second Session of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (Sixth Legislature) adopts the 1977 State Plan, ratifies the draft budget for 1977 and ratifies the integration of the island district of Con Dao (Poulo Condor) into Hau Giang province.

— Hoc Tap (Study) Review, theoretical and political organ of the Communist Party of Viet Nam, is renamed Tap Chi Cong San (Review of Communism).

January 16 — February 15, 1977

JANUARY

16. In the first half of January 1977, the small industry and handicraft branch of Hue City provided jobs for 10,500 persons, organizing them into production groups for embroidery, leaf hat and art article production.

— Vice-President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Nguyen Huu Tho, receives the visiting representative of the International Red Cross.

— VNA: In 1976, the number of State-run production bases in Ho Chi Minh City increased threefold and that of co-operative establishments twelvefold compared with 1975.

17. The VINAPPRO agricultural engineering plant in Ho Chi Minh City turns out its first DD—900V double-axle thrashing machine with a capacity of 500-600 kilograms of paddy per hour. The machine can do three jobs at the same time: thrashing, screening and winnowing.

— VNA: The Legislation Commission of the National Assembly and the Government Law Commission meet to discuss stricter enforcement of socialist legality with a view to better implementation of the Resolution of the 4th Party Congress and the 1977 State Plan.

18. A foreign trade delegation of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam led by Minister of Foreign Trade Dang Viet Chau arrives in Vientiane to negotiate and sign a protocol on commodity exchange and payment between the two countries for 1977.

— VNA: The Ministry of Agriculture holds a conference to discuss the settlement of nomadic people in southern provinces. The conference decides that in the first few years, 700,000 members of ethnic minorities in the South will be helped to take up sedentary farming and reorganize their mode of production.

— Can Tho University (Hau Giang province) holds a graduation ceremony for its first batch of 566 agro-engineers.

20. A delegation of the Viet Nam Women's Union led by Mrs Ha Thi Que, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Viet Nam, President of the Union, arrives in Vientiane for a friendship visit.

— A medical delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic headed by Minister of Public Health Souk Vongsak, member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Laos, arrives in Hanoi to negotiate and sign a health agreement between the two countries.

— In Warsaw, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the Polish People's Republic sign a protocol on commodity exchange and payment for 1977.

— A delegation of the French CGT (General Confederation of Labour) arrives in Hanoi for a visit to Viet Nam.

22. The Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam issues a circular providing for the establishment of ten State forest reserves, four of which include many historical relics.

— A Government trade delegation of Mongolia led by Vice-Minister I. Aiuos arrives in Hanoi.

28. Hanoi begins work on a plan for the construction of 15,000 sq. m. of housing space in 1977.

— The local industry branch of Ho Chi Minh City has built 42 more State-run production units and 5,000 small industry and handicraft establishments, including 700 production collectives and co-operatives, since liberation.

— The Central Crèche Attendant School graduates its second batch of 180 attendants who have completed the 1973-76 course.

— Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Nguyen Co Thach concludes his friendship visit to Italy (January 19 - 22, 1977), Norway (January 24-26 1977) and Sweden (January 26-29, 1977).

30. A delegation of the Viet Nam Federation of Trade Unions led by its Vice-President Nguyen Huu Thuan leaves for a friendship visit to Japan at the invitation of the National Council of Japanese Trade Unions (SOHYO).

— Closing of the 1977 national conference on water conservancy. Addressing the conference, Le Duan, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Viet Nam, stresses: "In this second five-year plan (1976-80) agricultural production is the Number One front and water conservancy is the most important measure in this field."

— A delegation of the National Council of Polish Women arrives in Hanoi for a visit to Viet Nam.

31. Opening in Ho Chi Minh City of the Congress of the National United Front. 500 delegates of three front organizations (the Viet Nam Fatherland Front, the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces) attend the congress. Ton Duc Thang, President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, opens the congress. Speaking to the delegates, Le Duan, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Viet Nam, says: "In the new stage, the national united front is a front for national union, a front for all those who love their country and socialism, and all the forces struggling for the victory of the socialist revolution."

— Night temperatures drop to below freezing in the mountainous areas of Hoang Lien Son and Ha Tuyen provinces. This is the lowest temperature recorded in Viet Nam in the past 20 years.

FEBRUARY

1. Xuan Thuy, Vice-President and General Secretary of the Standing Committee of the National Assembly and member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front, receives the visiting delegation of the American Friends Service Committee.

— In Hanoi, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the People's Republic of Mongolia sign a protocol on commodity exchange and payment for 1977.

2. The Central Committee of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front issues a statement in support of the legitimate proposal of political parties and social organizations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea that a political consultative conference between North and South Korea to discuss the peaceful and sovereign unification of the country be convened.

— A delegation of the USSR Academy of Science headed by Academician P.N. Podoseyev, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, and Vice-President of the Academy and President of the Social Sciences Commission, arrives in Hanoi for a visit to Viet Nam and for the inauguration of the Nghia Do Scientific Research Centre (Hanoi) built with Soviet assistance.

— A delegation of the Merchant Marine of the Soviet Union arrives in Hanoi to attend the first session of the joint committee for co-operation in maritime transport between the two countries.

— A team of economic specialists of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam led by Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade Nguyen Chanh leaves for China.

— A delegation of the Chamber of Commerce of the Republic of the Philippines arrives in Hanoi.

3. Celebration of the 47th anniversary of the foundation of the Communist Party of Viet Nam (February 3, 1930).

— Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Phan Hien, envoy of the SRVN Prime Minister arrives in New Delhi on the first of a round of visits to a number of South Asian countries.

4. Closing of the Congress of the Viet Nam National United Front. The various front organizations in northern and southern Viet Nam are merged into a single front organisation called Viet Nam Fatherland Front. President Ton Duc Thang is elected Honorary President of the Front, and Hoang Quoc Viet, President of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Front.

7. A delegation of Vietnamese women headed by Ha Thi Que, President of the Viet Nam Women's Union, leaves for a visit to Democratic Kampuchea.

8. A delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Yemen led by Foreign Minister Mohammed Saleh Muti, arrives in Hanoi for a friendship visit.

— VNA : The southern provinces have opened 97,000 classes of various levels of education for 4.5 million pupils, and 1,380 villages have done away with illiteracy.

— A Government economic delegation of the German Democratic Republic led by Gerhard Weiss, member of the Central Committee of the German Socialist Unity Party (SED), Vice-Premier of the Government, and Chairman of the GDR Sub-Commission of the GDR-Viet Nam Economic, Scientific and Technical Co-operation Committee, concludes its visit to the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam begun on February 2, 1977. The delegation signs documents on economic, scientific and technical co-operation with Viet Nam after attending the 8th session of the Committee for economic, scientific and technical co-operation between the SRVN and the GDR.

— In Hanoi, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and Australia agree on the terms of Australian aid in developing cattle husbandry at a State farm in Quang Ninh province.

— A team of Finnish Government advisers on international co-operation and development leaves for home after a visit to Viet Nam.

— In Hanoi, a trade delegation of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and a Government delegation of the Bulgarian People's Republic on a visit to Viet Nam sign an agreement on economic co-operation and a protocol on commodity exchange and payment for 1977.

— A delegation of the Swedish Viet Nam Committee led by Mrs. Birgitta Dahl, Member of Parliament and Chairwoman of the Committee, arrives in Hanoi.

— A delegation of New Zealand parliamentarians arrives in Hanoi for a visit to Viet Nam.

— The spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam issues a statement supporting Kampuchea's condemnation of the military junta in Thailand for its continuous military provocations against and armed encroachments upon the territory of Kampuchea.

11. *Nhan Dan*: The Vietnamese novel in verse "Kieu" by the great poet Nguyen Du has been translated into Arabic and published in a literary magazine in Syria.

12. A delegation from Budapest arrives in Hanoi for a friendship visit to Viet Nam.

— A delegation of the Federation of Friendship Societies of the USSR and the Soviet-Viet Nam Friendship Society arrives in Hanoi for a friendship visit to Viet Nam.

— A delegation of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam headed by Minister Phan My leaves Hanoi for New Delhi to attend the funeral of Indian President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed. By government decision, all government offices in Hanoi fly flags at half mast in mourning for the late Indian President.

— Inauguration of the Nguyen Sinh Sac memorial centre in An Hoa village, Cao Lanh district, Dong Thap province (southern Viet Nam). Nguyen Sinh Sac was a patriotic scholar and father of President Ho Chi Minh.

14. The Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sign a protocol and a plan for scientific and technical co-operation.

February 16 – March 15, 1977

FEBRUARY

16. Vice-Premier Le Thanh Nghi receives a COMECON team of specialists led by D. Yurukov who have come to Viet Nam to see how it can help Viet Nam carry out agricultural mechanization in a number of provinces.

— VNA : Unveiling in Quy Nhon town (Nghia Binh province) of a statue and public square dedicated to Quang Trung, a national hero of the 18th century.

17. On the occasion of Tet (traditional Lunar New Year Festival), Party and State leaders pay tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at his Mausoleum in Hanoi.

18. On the first day of Tet (February 18) Party, State and army leaders pay visits to soldiers' families, army units, nursing homes for war invalids, and families of fallen heroes in various parts of the country.

19. Opening of the Children's Cultural Palace in Hanoi, which was built with the assistance in materials and equipment of the Czechoslovak Socialist Union of Youth.

— VNA : The Duyen Hai Engineering Plant (Haiphong) finishes building four dredgers. Each has a capacity of 160 cubic metres per hour, and they will be sent to the Mekong delta.

20. The Viet Nam pavilion at the 13rd International Fair held in Algiers is handed over to the Algerian people as a gift from the Vietnamese people.

21. An economic delegation of the Hungarian Government headed by Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers Janos Borbandi, member of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, and Chairman of the Hungarian section of the Hungary-Viet Nam Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Co-operation, arrives in Hanoi for a friendship visit to Viet Nam.

— Vice-Premier Do Muoi, alternate Political Bureau member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Viet Nam, receives the visiting municipal delegation of Budapest led by Zoltan Szepvolgyi, Central Committee member of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party and Chairman of the Budapest People's Council.

22. Signing in Hanoi of a plan for scientific and technical co-operation between the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia.

23. VNA : Early this year the Vanguard Publishing House in Chicago (US) published a collection of selected works by Le Duan, Secretary General of the Communist Party of Viet Nam. The book's title, "Nation and Socialism Are at One", is a quote from the Political Report delivered by Le Duan to the first session of the National Assembly of reunified Viet Nam on June 25, 1976.

24. Implementing the resolution of the Fourth National Congress of the Communist Party of Viet Nam, the Ministry of Education and the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union launch a campaign called "Cultural Light 1977" aimed at completing the anti-illiteracy movement in progress throughout southern Viet Nam and developing complementary education, especially study-and-work schools for young people.

— Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Phan Hien, envoy of the Premier of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, successfully concludes his visit to six South Asian countries : India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Afghanistan.

25. Since the beginning of this year the Ministry of Forestry has sent 500 cadres and students to various districts in the country to help plan afforestation and agricultural production.

— Publication of the decision of the Standing Committee of the National Assembly and the order of the President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to create the "Friendship Order", which will be conferred on foreign organizations and individuals who have assisted Viet Nam in the anti-US war of resistance for national salvation, and in national defence and construction, or who have made active contributions to the development of international friendship with the Vietnamese people.

— Nhan Dan : The Lien Ninh engineering plant (under the Ministry of Building) has designed and manufactured a brick-moulding machine named EG5A with a capacity of 10 million bricks per year.

26. A delegation of the Socialist Party of Chile led by Carlos Altamirano Orego, General Secretary of the Party, arrives in Hanoi on a friendship visit to Viet Nam.

— A delegation of the Marx-Lenin Institute of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, arrives in Hanoi.

— Biro Jozsef, Minister of Foreign Trade of the Hungarian People's Republic, and member of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, concludes his visit to Viet Nam begun on February 20. Many measures aimed at strengthening and expanding economic and trade relations and co-operation in production between the two countries were discussed on this occasion.

28. Signing in Hanoi of documents concerning economic, scientific and technical co-operation between the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the Hungarian People's Republic.

MARCH

1. VNA : The Pleikan sugar mill in Gia Lai — Cong Tum province (capacity : 130 tons per day), which was built by the army, is put into operation.

— A medical delegation of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam led by Vice-Minister Vu Cong Thuyet arrives in Peking on a friendship visit to China.

— The Government Council issues a new statute on the organization and activities of the Control Commission of the Government.

— Closing of the first session of the Inter-government Co-ordinating Council of the News Pool among Non-aligned Countries, held in Tunis. The Vietnamese delegation to this session was led by Ngo Dien, Assistant to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

— First national conference on government control work opens in Ho Chi Minh City.

3. Opening of the civil aviation route between Vientiane and Hanoi.

5. Completion of the planning for nine State farms covering 21,000 hectares around Ho Chi Minh City, where food crops, vegetables, fruit trees will be grown and animals bred and kept to supply food to the city population.

— Closing of a conference on film-script writing in the new stage of the revolution in Viet Nam.

7. An economic delegation of the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic led by Makhay Khamphithoun, member of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party, Chairman of the State Planning Commission and Chairman of the Lao section of the Viet Nam — Laos Commission for Economic, Cultural, Scientific and Technical Co-operation, arrives in Hanoi.

— VNA : The General Staff of the Viet Nam People's Army hold a conference on the training of the militia and homeguard and on students' and pupils' responsibility with regard to national defence.

— The Ministry of Labour publishes the decree of the Government Council on temporary regulations regarding the duties and rights of

employees and employers at privately-owned enterprises in the South.

8. A military delegation of the SRVN headed by General Vo Nguyen Giap, Political Bureau member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Viet Nam, Vice-Premier and Minister of National Defence, leaves Hanoi for an official friendship visit to the Soviet Union.

— A delegation of the Viet Nam Committee of the German Democratic Republic arrives in Hanoi.

10. In Peking, the SRVN and the Chinese People's Republic ratify a plan for carrying out the agreement on medical co-operation between the two countries.

— First conference on information work opens in Hanoi.

11. In Hanoi, a photo exhibition entitled "Granma" is opened on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the landing of Cuban revolutionaries aboard the "Granma".

— Opening of the civil aviation route between Ho Chi Minh City and Da Nang via Buon Me Thuot.

12. A Government delegation of the Kingdom of Denmark led by Minister Professor Lide Ostergaard arrives in Hanoi.

— VNA : 42 marketing and supply co-operatives have been set up at commune level in Gia Lai-Cong Tum province. Such co-ops have been set up in all communes of almost all districts in this mountain province.

— More than 300 owners of fishing boats in the town of Vung Tau (Cape St Jacques, Dong Nai province) have signed contracts to sell sea products to the State.

14. The Government Council decides that elections to the People's Councils in the provinces and cities directly under the central administration will be held on May 15, 1977 and elections to the People's Councils in the districts, city districts, towns, communes, city wards and district capitals will be held on May 31, 1977.